Dr. Somerndike,
This is a copy of the letter I mailed to Dr Baker, pastor of the church which has us as their missionaries. Am using this as my narrative for this month.

Box 275
Wrangell
October 1st 1938

Sincerely,
Frederick Pederson

Dr. P. Martin Baker
Northminster Presbyterian Church
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Dr. Baker:

The Pedersons send greetings to you and all the Northminster friends. Winter is drawing near. We are having less rain and more fog. That means also that we'll have more sunshine for which we are thankful. We have been blessed with good health and plenty to do to keep us happy. Mrs. Pederson and I are having real joy in our privileges. The children are all in school and are enjoying their classes. When I write that they are all in school, I should explain a little.

Stella Mary is of Kindergarten age. The town of Wrangell has not visualized the benefits of a Kindergarten. Mrs. Pederson felt that there was something she could do, and that is to have a Presbyterian Kindergarten. This she started the same day as the public school opened, and she has a nice little group daily from 9 to 11:20. The parents are cheerfully contributing a dollar a week for a child. She is employing a woman to help with the house work, and this week she has another woman substituting with the teaching. In this way she is developing a teacher who likely will be encouraged to take a Sunday School class later.

Northminster may wish to know just what we are trying to do this winter. Therefore I will give you a few paragraphs as to our vision and the working out of the program as we see it possible at this time.

This field carries two great responsibilities, the first is serving the community of Wrangell, and the second is to minister to the student body at Wrangell Institute. The Presbytery has seen fit to give me the honor of serving as Chairman of the National Missions Committee and United Promotion.

Our Sunday program includes the following services: 9:30 a.m. Wrangell Institute, 40 minute worship, all Indian high school young people, this is in cooperation with the Episcopal and Salvation Army groups; 10:30 a.m. Wrangell Church service, mixed Indian and White attendance; 12 noon Bible School, mixed Indian and White with about 35 attending in the summer and 50 to 60 in the winter. At times we do have as many as 80, but that is quite special. Our evening service has a small attendance of both whites and Indians.

Mondays we are conducting two Week Day Bible Classes. Mrs. Pederson has the 1st and 2nd graders which are dismissed from the public school at 3 p.m. She meets them in the Manse and is having her Bible studies illustrated with the large flat pictues which she has been gathering for several years. I have the 3rd graders and up around the fireplace in the church social room. My group is organized as a Christian Endeavor and they give me an opportunity to teach a lesson. Both these classes are mixed Indian and white.

Monday evenings at 7 p.m. we have our Cub and Boy Scout troop in the public school gymnasium. We have enlisted the leadership of the high school coach and our boys are enjoying the complete Scout program. We have camp fire each meeting at the close and the Scoutmaster calls on me to give a Bible thought and lead in prayer. We have boys of all denominations and both white and Indian blood. Three years ago we started the Girls Scout work. It flourished, but we did not have the time to give it leadership. We enlisted a grade school teacher and now they are meeting in the public school, and we do little more with them than to look in once in a while and keep friendly. Our own daughter, Evelyn, is joining the Girl Scouts this fall.

Tuesdays Mrs. Pederson and I have our hands full. I go to Wrangell Institute for the Bible Classes and visitation. Wish I had an assistant out there. The classes have had an attendance of 39 to 76 last year, and last Tuesday 39 were present as a beginning of the 1938~~9~~39 response. The Missionary Society was meeting Tuesdays but ~~this~~ changing to Friday. Therefore Mrs. Pederson is having an older girls group at the Manse. They have study, songs, and games. Next week additional leadership is taking hold of that group. The mother of one of the girls will be present and begin a course of fine needlework.

Wednesdays the prayermeeting is attended by both Indian and White members. Often during the winter we close our prayermeeting with a social fellowship. The Indian people like to bring along a cake and sandwiches and visit together over a cup of coffee or cocoa. Last Wednesday I was away on a N. M. Committee field trip. Spent that evening in Kake.

Each two weeks on Wednesday afternoons our Ladies' Aid Society meets. This Society is all white. They are a fine group of women, many of them are members of our church and congregation. Some have not found an interest in the services of worship, but we keep hoping they may. We believe that our whites must have their Christian fellowship, and this society meets that need. They help in many ways such as providing a telephone for our use, purchasing a load of fuel oil when the church treasurer is short of funds, seeing that the church is given a cleaning from time to time, beautifying the church and manse grounds. This year they sent a delegate to the Presbyterial. At each meeting they have devotional messages and at times studies from "Women and Missions." They, two weeks ago, put on their second yearly merchants' lunch and fine needle work sale. They are doing this annually for the fellowship as well as the proceeds. They are the ones which are capable of providing the refreshments which make an appeal to all in connection with our Annual Congregational meeting.

Thursdays we have determined must be open house for the older boys. We must do something to reach more of that group. All the churches seem to be failing to reach the boys and hold the men. The fraternal organizations are getting ahead of us, and we must awaken to the fact that the fraternal organizations are not bringing the spiritual and not developing the moral.

Fridays the Missionary Society is meeting. The society has two members who are in the Ladies' aid and a couple of other whites, the rest of them are Indians or mixed bloods. They are an encouraging group. Mrs. Pederson is enjoying her study in the Life of Christ with them. Several members hardly comprehend the English but they endeavor to use the English in their meetings. Those who do not grasp the English readily are most enthusiastic in the picture studies. Mrs. Pederson takes a large picture and talks it over thoroughly. They catch a little of the ideas expressed and through the "eye gate" gain much more. They are like children in their learning. They interpret one to another in Thlingit. The English speaking members carry the leadership, but they are working together with a spiritual attitude which helps us realize that the Christian ministry is worth while.

We are participating in the Community efforts. Mrs. Pederson is a member of the Women's Civic Club which is the women's organization in this town. Therein she has the privilege of being a member of the Library Committee which enables her to have a choice in the selection of the town's public library new books and magazines. As a member of the Chamber of Commerce I get an opportunity to meet in a business manner with all the better business men of the community. This week we had as guests a representative from Ketchikan and another from Petersburg. Our particular problem had to do with the fishing season, that is the commercial. We face the situation of persuading the Bureau of Fisheries to change their plans for closed seasons. This year there were plenty of fish, but they came too late. The season closed just as the run began. Owing to the failure of the fishermen to realize their customary earnings in the southern district, we must arrange for relief of distress of several families by providing some work projects.

Whenever I find time to run out to Wrangell Institute, pastoral visitation is in order. It seems so difficult to find time, that is adequate time, for the personal work which should be accomplished among the approximately 140 to 170 high school age young people in the Institute. Yet we know that the future of the Indian people in Alaska lies in the youth at Wrangell Institute and Sheldon Jackson School. Am enclosing a clipping from our Wrangell paper giving news of Wrangell Institute. Will enclose the news sheet which I made up last month from letters sent me by other missionaries, and some Wrangell suggestions.

Last week one of our girls who united on profession of faith about three years ago left for study at the University of Washington in Seattle. Margaret Eyon is half Thlingit and halp Japanese. She plays the piano well and is expecting to major in music. She accepted my letter of introduction to the University Pastor, and we trust she will grow in Christian faith in her new surroundings. We have the pleasure of reaching these young people and watching them grow awhile and then go out. Perhaps they come back. Next week a white girl, Vivian Close, who united on profession faith last spring and has been most faithful in attendance, leaves to attend Business College. We have made arrangements through a Seattle Presbyterian minister for her to board in a nice Christian home next door to some active Christian Endeavorers. Many opportunities.

Dr. Baker, we do thank you and your church for making it possible for us to serve in this Presbytery, and at Wrangell. Best wishes to all of you. Sincerely, Russell F. Pederson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
UNITED PROMOTIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
FOREIGN MISSIONS
REV. DONALD G. CHRISTIANSEN, CH.
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

PRESBYTERY
OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
MR. W. LESLIE YAW, CH.
SITKA, ALASKA
PENSIONS
REV. DAVID WAGGONER, CH.
JUNEAU, ALASKA
STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER,
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell, Alaska
October 1st 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Last night I reached home following a visit to the villages of Kake and Angoon. Mr. Swanson called for me with the Princeton and took me around and back to Petersburg where we wre just in time for me to catch the steamer, and save both time and expense for the Princeton.

In Angoon we found five of the six Ruling Elders on hand for a Session meeting. After listening to each of the Elders we found that they were unanimous in their expression that Mr. Samuel G. Johnson would be a more acceptable layworker for the coming year than Mr. Andrew Wanamaker. Therefore I informed Mr. Johnson that the N. M. Committee would recommend his appointment for a seven month period. Mr. Johnson will begin his service either Oct 15th nr November 1st. He will let me know later from which date his service is to begin, and I will inform you promptly.

Mr. Wanamaker told me that he knew that it was coming. He did not express any ill feeling. The Wanamakers state that they are continuing to live in Angoon. Having learned of some other work in another village, I told Mr. Wanamaker about the possibility of his getting that work, but he was not interested.

In your letter of Sept 9th you inquired as to how much you agreed to pay for the house and lot to be used as the Angoon Manse. The sum agreed on was $1,350.00. The papers have been signed and a deed in the hands of the Department which must approve the sale of Indian possessions. It is impossible for us to tell when that sale will be finally approved and the money needed. We hope that it will not be long.

The Kake Manse is in a bad state of repair. Were you to see the inside of the building you would quickly recommend a grant for repairs. No repairs were included in the askings for this year for the Kake Manse, but there is a sum of $40 requested for the Hydaburg Manse. Since Mr. Davis will be living in his own home in Hydaburg, I think we can get by without making the Hydaburg kitchen repairs and new rug.

Would you please approve our using the Hydaburg grant of $40 for the Kake Manse? A new floor is essential in the dining room. The back and front porch is dangerous. There is need of some paint when the new floor is put in.

The Kake Manse has to have a new heater. Mr. George Betts wishes to have a diesel oil heater. He figures that such a heater will conserve time for his greater effort in the church work. A new heater was recommended but was not included in the new year's budget. A heater with sufficient capacity and with safety regulation will cost approximately $53.00. Mr. Betts states that he will buy it on time himself in case the Board cannot afford to furnish the Manse with a new heater.

The Angoon Church Elders wish to know whether the $500 grant which was allowed last year, but not used, is yet available. They believe that under the leadership of Mr. Johnson they may make the improvements which are necessary to provide adequate space for the Sunday School and other activities. At present they have but one room.

When Miss Voss was here last week and was telling me about the work at Sheldon Jackson School and how she expected to strengthen activities over there and make the Indian and white work more helpful, I could not help but wish that the right kind of a worker could be sent to take a hand at the Wrangell Institute. So much is being done for the Sheldon Jackson students, about 130 I have heard. We have more than that number at Wrangell Institute.

The Institute has plenty of dancing, card playing, cigarette smoking, etc., and it is so difficult to reach the students with the spiritual.

We are permitted to have Sunday services, Tuesday evening Bible Classes, and do much pastoral work. I am doing all I can to improve the opportunities afforded me, but I am satisfied that much more personal work should be done among the students. I think of the students of Sheldon Jackson School and of Wrangell Institute as the future of the Indian people of Alaska. With the Wrangell town opportunities and the National Mission Committee responsibilities seriously considered and met, I cannot find time to do all the pastoral work I would like to do at the Institute. In fact I do not get as much pastoral work done in town as I would like and do feel is urgent. I wish that it were possible for the Department of Schools of our Church to place either a woman or man worker here to assist the missionary. I am thinking of myself. Then I would be freer to do some visitation as the Committee work actually demands.

I am anxious to hear what is being done with the new church at Juneau. Unless work gets going very soon, winter will be here first.

Sincerely,

Russell T. Somerndike

Oct.
6th
1938

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I enclose a copy of a letter just received from Mr. Kaiper. I am not sure that I am complimented by Mr. Kaiper's professions of loyalty to me under the circumstances. I could wish that his so-called loyalty had expressed itself in following my instructions. Regarding the matters to which he refers, I still retain a sense of humor. You see that he acknowledges that I did everything possible to keep him from returning to Alaska. So did Mr. Gould.

I think your Presbytery will have to deal with the matter according to constitutional procedure.

I shall be glad to receive your advice.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Excerpts from Narratives

Rev. A.D. Swogger, Oct 17. "How the months do slip by, and still there is so much to do. If I could just multiply my hands, and employ each one at the work on the new manse, I might be able soon to see signs of completion. Things have not gone as I had hoped they might, but still I am a most fortunate person. Mr. Leask the carpenter who worked with me during the summer was splendid, and sure did render faithful and efficient service and accomplished a lot. Now I have Mr. Beck helping me with the inside work, and how fast and capable he is. If he did not have to look after Mr. Christiansen's work on Sundays, it would be much better for me, but so it is..." "Oct 2nd we observed World Communion Sunday..." "By liberal donations from a few people; contributions from the choir, C.E., Deacons' fund, Women's Society, and a coffer sale.....; we have 150 brand new 'Triumphant Service Songs' hymnals for use in the Church. Two weeks ago Mrs Swogger organized a group of Sunday School girls into a sewing club. The average age is 14, and at present there are 17 members. The girls are very enthusiastic about the project, as they have had nothing like it, either in home or school, heretofore. She hopes to have a group of the younger girls cometogether, a little later. If I get through with the house in time, I plan to have a group of the boys come together for a recreation night once a week.

Learning to Give

Rev. R.K. Wheeler, Oct 15. The Haines congregation has increased local support toward salary from $25 to $30 a month. "Two touching incidents occurred at Klukwan during our observance of World Wide Communion Sunday. Jimmie Katzeek, the 14 yr old son of my faithful Elder was converted last Easter. He earned $10 at the cannery this summer. The big event of the week for him is to come to the Saturday afternoon movie in Haines. But on Oct 2nd he brought a shiny silver dollar for the benevolence offering saying: "I love Jesus now and will stay home for the next ten Saturdays!" Mrs. Matthew Johnson, an aged blind woman, was taken the Sacrament by Elder James Willard and myself. When we prepared to leave, she fumblingly searched in her old handkerchief and drew out a nickel--all her money--and pressed it into my hand--a veritable modern Widow's Mite!" I have been very busy pushing a case against a liquor store owner who violates the law. I am encouraged by the cooperation of the Christian elemen and discouraged by the hostility of the rest of the community. Rev. John A. Glasse & Dist. Atty. Folta are helping splendidly."

R.K. Wheeler, Haines

Layworkers Betts and Johnson will be breaking into the news again. Mr. Betts began his work for the year, October 1st. Kake is thankful to have Mr. and Mrs. Betts resident and active in their community. The Angoon Session requested that Elder Samuel G. Johnson serve as their layworker, and it is expected that he will begin Nov. 1st. The Wanamakers are continuing their residence in Angoon. They said they are tired of moving around and like the village of Angoon.

Rev. and Mrs. Daniel Kaiper returned to Klawock the 2nd of October. We do not know all the arrangements. Mr. Kaiper expects to serve in Klawock only.

Wrangell. You may recall that last month we made mention of the many denominations working in this community. We are attempting to reach the homes of our members as well as new residents with a drive for Home Bible Study. We are placing Home Department Quarterlies in many homes, all those where a member of the family will agree to spend at least 30 minutes a week in the study of the lesson. We hope that with one of the parents studying the Sunday School lesson the Sunday School Bible studies may mean more to our young people. This effort is assisting in placing more Bibles at work. We have helped families select and order. Attendance and interest is growing.

October 21, 1938 Russell F. Pederson

Rev. E. E. Bromley--Hoonah

"During the past year two new houses have been erected on the Mission ground here at Hoonah. John F. Williams has lot No.2 and John C. Johnson has Lot No. 10. The families are both living in their new homes, although the houses are not painted on the outside and the lot is not cleared or fenced. They are both well built and will help to make the Mission gground attractive and influence our native people to build better homes.

"It has been announced that Gustavus (called Strawberry point) is being considered by the Federal Government as a desireable location for an airplane base. The settlers at Gustavus are sure that such a base will be established. And should this proposed project actually be realized it will mean that the population of this Icy Sts.district will be more than doubled. The Presbyterian Church must be ready to serve the increased population as soon as the work starts."

Rev. David Waggoner--Juneau.

"We have had a great number of children go out to Sheldon Jackson School and Wrangell Institute. These children were in town over one Sunday between cannery work and the opening of School. Twenty four of the young folks assembled at our home for a farewell at the close of the Sunday Evening Service. We were much interested in their expressions of their goals for the future. One wanted to be a minister. Most of the boys are planning for sea life. One boy wants to train himself for a position under the Wheeler Howard Act.

"Our people are anxiously awaiting the action of the Board as to the building of the new church building. The decision in this matter will have a great bearing on the future work of the Board and the Presbyterian Church among the Natives of Juneau. The importance of accepting the program and plans for the new work in Juneau is larger and more far reaching than appears to any one outside of the community. A great deal of prayer is arising from our own group and from interested friends of the sister churches of Juneau. The Ministerial Association is intensely interested in the matter."

Under date of Oct 14th, Mr. Waggoner writes that the contractor told him that if he can get to work on the foundation soon he can have the building enclosed before freezing weather. We have urged Dr. Somerndike to try to get construction started soon. Dr. Somerndike has been away from his office, and we expect that on his return he will expedite matters.

A visitor - "The Northern Light Church held Communion on Oct. 2nd and the church was practically filled."

A visitor - "Mrs. Knudsen has a Kindergarten with unanticipated interest and attendance."

"Miss Harriet A. Lawrence, Director of Haines House, was expected to return north on the Alaska Line boat sailing the week of Oct 16th." "If all goes well the Swets family may go out on the first CPR steamer in November. There are several things to complete before he will be ready. He is going out on sick-leave, and will appreciate our prayer that he may have early recovery and be able to return. He is a valued member of the missionary force in Alaska."

Eugene Bromley is teaching in the Government School at Hoonah for a month or so. ~~Mr~~ Mr. Bromley does appreciate having his son at home for he is both capable and willing to assist with the music in the church.

Webster is hoping to arrange a Sitka Mission to Angoon and Hoonah the last of October and first part of November. Let us strengthen this work with our prayer.

Klawock, Alaska
October 6th, 1938

Dr J M Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth ave, New York
Through N. M. Comm. Presbytery of Alaska

Dear Sirs:

We, the elders of the Klawock Presbyterian church, have called Rev Daniel Kaiper to be the minister in our church in Klawock.

We have agreed to do our best to support him on this field and he has agreed to serve Klawock only, and will work toward making the Presbyterian church in Klawock self supporting.

We will have Mr Kaiper make all regular reports to Presbytery and cooperate with and in Presbytery in every way.

We will pay Mr Kaiper $20 a month for eight months beginning Oct 1st/38, and help Mr Kaiper get summer work the other four months.

We hereby ask the Board of National Missions to grant $40 a month toward the salary of Mr Kaiper for the eight months beginning Oct 1/38, and allow Mr Kaiper the use of the Klawock manse.

We ask the Presbytery to approve this call and application.

Peter Roberts
P. K. Kendrick
James Peratrovich
Jim Sookum

I hereby indicate my agreement with the foregoing
Daniel Kaiper

Craig, Alaska
October 6th 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Through the Alaska Presbytery N. M. Committee:

Dear Dr. Some rndike:

We, the elders of the Craig Presbyterian Church, petition that an ordained minister by stationed at Craig at the earliest possible moment.

In the name of the congregation we promise that fifteen dollars per month will be paid to the minister as soon as he comes, and that as soon as we can we'll increase even that.

We do not want Mr. Kaiper for several reasons, and we plead with you to get a man who is a real Presbyterian who will be faithful to the faith and his job.

As soon as the new minister comes, we want the congregation of the Church of Christ which has been using the Presbyterian Church Building to discontinue holding any of their services in the Presbyterian Building.

We'll have our church pay the pension premium of 7½% of the amount we pay our minister.

We beg of you to hasten the coming of an ordained minister to Craig, and we'll all do our best to cooperate.

Sincerely,

Leo Edens
George Haldane
Peter Nathan
Jamy George

Copy for Dr Somerndike

Box 275, Wrangell, Alaska
October 10th 1938

Members National Missions Committee
Presbytery of Alaska

Dear Brother:

Last Monday I was surprised to receive an air mail letter from Dr. Somerndike informing me that Rev. Daniel Kaiper had wired him that he was returning to Klawock. The same day Chas. Dennert told me that Kaipers had reached Klawock, and that the people are delighted with their return. Dr. Somerndike requested me to visit Klawock at once and ascertain the state of affairs. He suggested that a member of the N.M.Committee accompany me. Therefore the Princeton took me to Metlakatla where we found Mr. Swogger and Mr. Beck swamped with work on the new manse. Mr. Swogger wished to be excused from making the trip and he recommended that I go ahead by myself. Swanson did not want to have anything to do with the meetings. In fact Mrs. Swanson said that she wished Verne would stay on the Princeton as she is actually afraid of Kaiper.

We stopped at Craig, and found that Kaiper had wired as follows: "George Edenso or George Baldwin or George Dennert Craig HAVE MISSION BOARD WILL COME TO CRAIG AS YOUR MINISTER IF YOU CALL US BALLOT NO OBJECT LACKIBAN LEAVES SOON WIRE SEATTLE IMMEDIATELY" Craig had not answered his wire.

The Craig Session asked me to assist them in drawing up a letter to the Board of National Missions, and it follows:

"Dear Mr. Somerndike: We, the elders of the Craig Presbyterian Church, petition that an ordained minister be stationed at Craig at the earliest possible moment.
"In the name of the congregation we promise that fifteen dollars per month will be paid to the minister as soon as he comes, and that as soon as we can we'll increase even that.
"We do not want Mr. Kaiper for several reasons, and we plead with you to get a man who is a real Presbyterian who will be faithful to the faith and his job.
"As soon as the new minister comes, we want the congregation of the Church of Christ which has been using the Presbyterian Church Building to discontinue holding any of their services in the Presbyterian Building.
"We'll have our church pay the pension premium of 7½% of the amount we pay our minister.
"We beg of you to hasten the coming of an ordained minister to Craig, and we'll all do our best to cooperate."
Signed by Geo. Edenso, George Baldwin, Peter Nathen, James George.

The Craig Session is much disturbed because of the Church of Christ which is having morning worship and Sunday school each Sunday. The Elders feel that the weekly Communion and immersion Baptism and other peculiarities being instilled in the young people will turn many from the Presbyterian Church. They desire a minister who will hold positively to presbyterian doctrine and be zealous to win souls. The main reason they do not want Kaiper is that he has located at Klawock. Another Elder objected to Kaiper's having a friendship to some followers of "Father Divine" and his having expressed some interest in them. Mr. Swanson thinks that Kaiper may be off on a tangent as to the Father Divine teachings. Later I talked to Kaiper about his interest in Father Divine and he acknowledged that he had looked into that teaching and had read some comments about it, but he gave me to understand that he is a Presbyterian himself.

The Craig Session believes that now is the time for them to get an ordained minister, and they requested me to telegraph them collect as soon as I can give them any information as to whether or not they'll get a minister.

We went on to Klawock, and I found that it would be very difficult to get a congregational meeting, but that all the Elders in town would be glad to meet. We had a long session meeting without Mr. Kaiper being present, and the Elders informed me that the people are just as much for having Kaipers now as they were last spring when they sent the petition to Presbytery. There seemed to be the deepest earnest spirit ever evident in the community. I met no one who represented himself as unfavorable to Kaipers. On the contrary every person seemed pleased that Kaipers had returned. In the course of the evening before the session met I drifted here and there endeavoring to pick up contrary convictions, but found none. On my return to the Princeton Mr. Swanson told me that certain people had told him that Kaiper would not help and were contrary to him. It seemed queer to me that the contrary minded would meet Mr. Swanson. He did not tell me who they were though I practically asked him who they were. Charles Dennert and George Dennert who certainly are leaders of the Dennert group were enthusiastic for Kaipers. Peter Roberts, R. J. Peratrovich, Jim Peratrovich and James Sookum certainly were for Kaipers. It seems to me that Klawock is for Kaipers.

The Elders asked me to write the following for them which they signed:

"We, the elders of the Klawock Presbyterian Church, have called Rev. Daniel Kaiper to be the minister in our church in Klawock.
"We have agreed to do our best to support him on this field and he has agreed to serve Klawock only, and will work toward making the Presbyterian Church in Klawock self supporting.
"We will have Mr. Kaiper make all regular reports to Presbytery and cooperate with and in Presbytery in every way.
"We will pay Mr. Kaiper $20 a month for eight months beginning Oct 1/38, and help Mr. Kaiper get summer work the other four months.
"We hereby ask the Board of National Missions to grant $40 a month toward the salary of Mr. Kaiper for the eight months beginning Oct 1/38, and allow Mr. Kaiper the use of the Klawock manse.
"We ask the Presbytery to approve this call and application."
Signed by Peter Roberts, R. J. Peratrovich, James Peratrovich, Jim Sookum

The other two elders were out of town but I was assured that they were in favor of this action, and that the call to Mr. Kaiper was made because the people of the town as well as the members of the church wished him as their minister.

At this point Mr. Kaiper came to the session meeting. He signed the above to indicate his agreement with their request and application.

The Session indicated regret that they had not made their call in a "regular" way, and they wished to have everything put in order. They told me that they had to get some action because the fall season was at hand when people resumed their active interest and they wanted the Presbyterian Church to get active before others took the interest of the Presbyterian congregation. I believe that each of you would be enthused had you been with me and listened to the plans which indicated normal development with progress.

After the adjournment of the meeting of the Church Session I went up to the Manse with Mr. Kaiper, and I went over every item of which I knew which I could remember at the time. Kaiper took each of my suggestions kindly. He acknowledged that he had made many mistakes and that he had failed in not getting to Presbytery and the Y. P. Conference. In fact he seemed to be in earnest prayer that we his brethern would forgive him and help him to make good in the ministry in Alaska. He states that his heart is in Alaska, and particularly with the Klawock people.

Mr. Kaiper told me more than once that he wished that he had had more contact with the members of Presbytery. He had met Mr. Swanson. Swanson had taken him to Klawock and let him off the boat. He said that he found very little expression of thoughtfulness with Mr. Swanson. He said that he bought some of Swanson's raw sugar and whole wheat, although he did not care for it, with the idea that in that way he might win Swanson's friendship, but it did not materialize. He appealed to me to urge that members of the N. M. Committee visit the isolated fields once in a while to help the lonely missionaries. He acknowledged that he had talked too much to leaders of other denominations.

Mr. Kaiper said that he had been very frank in his correspondence with Dr. Somerndike, but that he loves Dr. Somerndike and does believe that he has a real interest in the people of Alaska.

Now, let us come to a decision. Mr. Cook told me that he feared that we had a man to deal with who might be mentally unbalanced. Mr. Swogger said that the waters around Cape Chacon might be smooth, but that they would not be smooth on the other side. Swanson said that Mr. Robinson or perhaps it was Mrs. Robinson, teachers at Klawock, thinks Kaiper is 'erected', Swanson objects to his "Father Divine" interest. Last Summer Christiansens expressed themselves as believing that Kaipers were C. E., and Kaipers spent some time with them while enroute south. My impression was that Kaiper was a bit nervous, but that he has real possibilities.

Members of the N. M. Committee, please let me know at once whether you recommend approval of the request of the Klawock Church Session.

Then, please inform me whether to ask Dr. Somerndike to place the ordained minister he secured to serve both Klawock and Craig in Craig on the proposition submitted by the Craig session.

Dr. Somerndike wishes earliest possible action by our committee.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

Russell F. Pederson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
UNITED PROMOTIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
FOREIGN MISSIONS
REV. DONALD G. CHRISTIANSEN, CH.
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

PRESBYTERY
OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
MR. W. LESLIE YAW, CH.
SITKA, ALASKA
PENSIONS
REV. DAVID WAGGONER, CH.
JUNEAU, ALASKA
STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER,
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
October 10th 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Your airmail letter from Little Rock received by me last Monday. Using the Princeton I went to Metlakatla to get Mr. Swogger as a member of the N M Committee. He was so busy that he wished to be excused from making the trip to Klawock. He stated that he thought it would be better for me to go alone. The enclosed carbon copy of my letter to the members of the N M Committee will give you much of the detail of that visit. My conviction is that the matter of Kaiper's connection with Klawock had better be considered later, that is following communications from the other committee members. Personally I think it will be expedient to approve the request of the Klawock Session.

I hope that the other members of the Committee will agree to recommending that the new minister you secured be placed to serve at Craig. The Craig people seem so anxious to have a pastor in their community. With a worker at Klawock and another at Craig, the "A. L. Lindsley" could be left at Hoonah which would save some expense. Am enclosing the letters signed by the Craig and Klawock elders. The Klawock and people as well as Kaipers hope you will place an ordained worker at Craig. The moral and spiritual condition of that village is so bad that adjoining communities cannot help but pray for improvement.

In Metlakatla the Presbyterian Church has an investment in the new manse for which we can all be justly proud. Rev. Geo. J. Beck is devoting about three days a week in helping with the finishing and building in cupboards etc. Mr. Swogger is doing the heavy work. Mr. Swanson and I gave him a hand for three hours Wednesday and had a taste of the labor which he has been doing the last three months. Wish you could have been there and helped nail celotex on the ceiling of the dining room. Please write Mr. Swogger a letter of appreciation for the decidedly hard manual labor which he is doing on that Manse. Another letter to Mr. Beck for his contribution in Metlakatla would be much appreciated by both Mr. Swogger and Mr. Beck, I am certain.

There has been no provision made to provide a heating plant for the Metlakatla manse. Mr. Swogger is anxious to have a pipeless furnace. The funds which you have allowed will not cover that item. He wishes you could make another grant of about $150 to cover cost and installation of the furnace. I recommend that you try to do that as a recognition of his work, and that work contributed by his two sons while they were home on vacation from college this summer.

The Christian Church of Metlaktla is erecting a $7,000 manse and their minister is not doing a tap of work toward its erection. You will go a mighty long way before you find a worker like Mr. Swogger. He will do well if he is able to complete it so that he may move in by Thanksgiving. Swogger is trying to complete his manse before the other manse is ready.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
UNITED PROMOTIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
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BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell

October 14, 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

In your letter of July 28th you proposed that we appropriate the sum of $1,500 as the salary of a competent man to operate the "Princeton." You wrote, "It ought to be possible for us to find someone who understands Diesel engines among all the boatmen in southeastern Alaska - a Christian man who would be in sympathy with our missionary program, who would be willing to accept a position of this kind at a stated salary paid monthly throughout the year."

We found "the man." Mr. Phillip Falconer of Ketchikan, son of the late Rev. F. R. Falconer, is an experienced operator. He has been the "Skipper" on mail boats which operate summer and winter in all kinds of weather. He has had experience with diesel engines and could soon master the new Cummins on the Princeton. He is known as a sincere Christian, has a good disposition, personality and reputation. A local canneryman told me that Phillip Falconer has a good reputation among the business men.

Mr. Falconer has been working on a towboat since the company holding mail contracts was underbid and a new company has the mail service to the West-Coast. He was in Wrangell a couple of weeks ago, and I asked him whether he would be interested in work on the Princeton. He answered that he was interested. On my recent trip to Klawock I had opportunity to make some inquiry about Falconer. A successful business man in Ketchikan gave him highrecommendation. In Metlakatla Rev. Geo. J. Beck and Rev. A. D. Swogger talked Mr. Falconer over with me, and they both consider him exceptionally well fitted to serve as operator on the Princeton. They questioned whether he would be willing to serve on the salary. When I talked with Falconer, I told him that the salary would be about $1,500.00 and that the operator would have to furnish his own food and bedding and laundry on the boat. He said that he would be interested because he would be entering Presbyterian missionary work and the employment would be steady. He wrote me a letter after talking the matter with his wife, and he makes application for the job in case it opens up. Of course he wishes more details.

When I talked with Beck and Swogger, I remarked that a change might take place about April 1st. They think that time is a long way off. They think that a change January 1st would be more beneficial for the work at large. As far as I know there are but two ministers of Presbytery who might possibly object to Mr. Swanson being dropped at this time. A number of times I have heard Mr. Swanson say, "If I am not dropped." So I rather think that he would not be surprised, although I have not said a word to him on the subject. I believe that Mr. Glasse would register an objection for he and Swanson pull together. Mr. Bromley as a N.M.Committee member may object.

Mr. Wheeler has not expressed himself to me on the subject of Swanson and the operation of the Princeton. Mr. Knudsen told me that he noted that Swanson is not a Presbyterian; that was due to the magazines not on the Princeton and the publications which were. Webster has expressed himself that a change is necessary, but he did not say when he thought it should come. Swogger and Beck certainly are for a change. I am certain that Christiansen is. Perhaps you could have a talk with Christiansen about this whole matter, seeing he is in the East. He knows Falconer, but does not know much about his boat work. Miss Voss told me that she had heard that the students are actually afraid to ride on the Princeton. Parents have told me that they are fearful from the moment their children go aboard till they are ashore again. I know that Mr. Swanson has had exceptional good luck in getting through. He has worked hard, and it may be that his successor may not be so fortunate.

Much work will be necessary to put the Princeton in condition. Mr. Swanson recently called my attention to "dry rot" in some of the planking just above the water line on the hull; it is boat shop work. On the trip to Klawock Mr. Swanson told me that he must grind the valves of the engine. I asked him why that had to be done so soon on the new engine, and he said that the engine had overheated when he changed the cooling system. His change was an improvement in that the engine is now cooled by fresh instead of salt water, but an air pocket stopped the circulation for a short time. The wiring is in bad condition. Mr. Swanson said that he had not had it done over because he thought it would be waste to do it before the rebuilding of the pilot house. He has installed much electrical equipment with simply his own approval. The present boat whistle is almost useless. He told me he had written the company to get their recommendation to improve the present electric whistle he installed after putting in the new engine. When a new man is secured, I will be urging the installation of an efficient whistle which will be ready for signals and actually give enough sound to let a village or port know the Princeton is entering. No one ever mistook the old whistle which was efficient when kept clean. There are other items.

If you are satisfied with continuing Mr. Swanson as the operator, I will not add more. Mr. Glasse told me one time that the Board is directing Mr. Swanson and the Princeton. With that being the understanding, it would stop argument if you were to state to Mr. Swanson whether or not the Board is satisfied with his operation of the Princeton and his vision of missionary work, rather than that certain members of the N. M. Committee or Presbytery were objecting.

Mr. Swanson told me he was corresponding with men with the intention of securing competent help. He is figuring on getting the boatman who may be able to take charge while he is absent to General Assembly which he expects to attend next May.

You wrote me that you had proposed to Mr. Webster that he become field missionary or evangelist. Did he give a favorable reply? Am interested in his response.

Dr. Somerndike, Your letter of October 6th just came. You must have a sense of humor. Thank you for sending the copy of Mr. Kaiper's letter. Do you consider that we should call a special meeting of Presbytery? It would mean travel for the missionaries in the rough weather which is before us, would mean more expense and being away from our fields now when activities should be getting started. Furthermore, the Klawock people seem so set in having Kaipers that I wonder whether it would be good for them to be upset.

Recently William L. Paul told me that Kaiper should be kept at Klawock. He also recommended Kaiper for Waggoner's field. I imagine that Mr. Kaiper had some conversation with Mr. Paul. I can think of no other way he received contacts with the men which he so freely describes as not being your cordial friends. I believe that Mr. Paul admires Webster and Christiansen.

My conviction is that you do have many friends in Alaska Presbytery, and that the majority of the missionaries are being loyal to you and the Board of National Missions.

As these letters go forward, they go with the prayer that God's will be done, and that His Kingdon be strengthened.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Peterson

P.S. Mr. Swanson told me that he is taking the period from September 15 to October 15th for his vacation. I had him make two trips of four days each during this time, and he told me that would extend his vacation to the later part of the month. I definitely obligated him to be at Kake October 30th for the Communion Service.

R. F. P.

Box 275
Wrangell, Alaska
October 15th 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike: NARRATIVE REPORT

The fall and winter program of activities has started. We are having joy and finding challenge every day.

Mrs. Pederson's Kindergarten meeting daily from 9 to 11:20 is bringing us some good community contacts as well as producing benefits to the children who would otherwise lose that step in their school life. She is employing a woman three mornings a week to keep up the house work.

The Home Department is developing nicely. We have sixteen members at the present time, and are determined that before the month is over there may be thirty. The Presbyterian Home Department Quarterly is full of so much good material that people can readily see the advantage of using that series of lessons. We have found enthusiasm wherever the people have set their attention to making the study helpful. We feel that the promotion of the Home Department is the best way with which to meet the propaganda of the 7th Day Adventists and other denominations working this community. We have had the Home Department before, but now we are working harder than ever to get people studying with us. This gives more purpose to the pastoral calling.

During the past month I made two trips to other fields. September 27th to 30th I spent with Mr. Swanson on the Princeton visiting Kake and Angoon. Mr. Betts has entered his work at Kake, and we found him cooperating with and in good favor with the public school teachers. He asked for a recommendation as to Week Day Bible Course. We recommended that he use the Junior Graded Course as put out by our Board. The Session of the Angoon Church requested that our N. M. Committee recommend that Mr. Samuel G. Johnson serve Angoon. We met with them and believe that Angoon will go forward. October 4th to 7th we went to Ketchikan, Metlakatla, Hydaburg, Craig and Klawock. The progress of work on the several fields appears promising.

The Bibles and Testaments which you requested for use on this field arrived last week. Have sold seven of the Testaments and four of the Bibles. Next month I expect to enclose a remittance covering a good share of the lot shipped us. We have helped two families purchase the $2 Bible Story books and a young woman to secure a $2 Bible with concordance.

Mail is slower than ever this month. Two Alaska steamers crashed at full speed in the fog and the mail which is ordinarily infrequent was delayed five days. The boat due south the 11th is coming today. Another steamer grounded and was called back to Seattle missing her schedule for the week.

Sincerely, Russell F Pederson

With the Craig and Klawock fields both occupied, the Lindsley can be kept at Hoonah, and some expense will be avoided.

Mr. Bromley wrote me also that his son, Eugene, had had a card from Mr. Swanson offering him the helpers job on the Princeton, and that Eugene had written Swanson that he would be glad to go with him if the place is still open when his teaching job ends.

In case you appoint a missionary at once to go to Craig, I believe that you had better notify me as early as possible as we must make the tenant move who is renting the manse. We must not let the tenant interfer with the arrival of the missionary.

I think that the missionary to go to Craig will find joy in his service although he will be going to a difficult field.

Sincerely,

Russell F Anderson

Copy for Dr Sommerlatte's file

Box 275
Wrangell
October 19th 1938

Rev. Jackson L. Webster
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Brother:

NATIONAL MISSIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS ATTENTION, PLEASE

Today I received a letter from Rev. Ralph K. Wheeler in which he states: "The Klukwan congregation has offered to pay $10 per month toward a layworker's salary and are eager to procure either Gibson Young or Andrew Wanamaker." "The Young Peoples' work is suffering for lack of adequate supervision and leadership.--I do the most I can."

In the same letter Mr. Wheeler informs us that the Haines congregation has increased their local support to $30 a month, which means that there is $5.00 a month more available in the Board budget.

Last month when I talked with Andrew Wanamaker, he told me that he does not wish to leave Angoon this winter. Mrs. Wanamaker told me that they are tired of moving around. Unless they have changed their minds since I saw them, they will not be wishing to go to Klukwan.

Webster, I am certain that the Committee members have confidence in your judgment concerning Gibson Young at the present time. Do you believe that he should be offered the opportunity to go to Klukwan?

Early this month Mr. Swanson and I were told by a storekeeper in Angoon that Gibson Young yet owed him a small amount on a bill. Two weeks ago I was told that Gibson had not paid up his bill at Sydaburg. I made no inquiries as to Gibson's accounts. This information came to me with no solicitation.

We certainly wish to help Gibson all that we can. I wonder whether he could be impressed with the necessity of a Christian worker keeping his bills paid, and with the urgency of living within his means for the sake of influence.

I have heard that Gibson was going to Seattle this fall to have his glasses changed. Have not seen him nor heard anything about his movements.

Webster, would you please make your recommendation as a member of the N. M. Committee in the light of the circumstances as you know them concerning Gibson Young.

In September the Klukwan Elders spoke to me about the possibility of securing a layworker. We all realize that they have a real desire for leadership, and we can depend on their paying their pledge toward the salary. $30 from the Board and $10 from the field is a small amount on which to get along at Klukwan, but may be possible where there are but two in the family, and the field knows the salary is small.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

Oct 19/38

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Mr. Swogger writes that he is compelled to make request for house rent for at least another month, for October. He fears that they cannot get the new house ready for occupancyy before late in November. If you had been with me two weeks ago and seen Mr. Swogger struggling to complete the new manse at the earliest moment, you would know that he is doing all that he himself can do.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

Russell F. Pederson

A.D. Swogger Oct. 17, 1938

NARRATIVE REPORT

How the months do slip by, and still there is so much to do. If I could just multiply my hands, and employ each one at the work on the new manse, I might be able soon to see signs of completion. Things have not gone as I had hoped they might, but still I am a most fortunate person. Mr. Leask the carpenter who worked with me during the summer ws splendid, and sure did render faithful and efficient service and accomplished a lot. Now I have Mr. Beck is helping me with the inside work, and how fast and capable he is. If he did not have to look after Mr. Christiansen's work Church work, on Sundays, it would be much better for me, but so it is, and there is nothing to do about it.

Sunday evening after the evening Service is a favorite time for goups from the Church to visit the sick. And always they want their Pastor to go with them. Sept. 25 we visited a family where the man a wife were both sick. A short service was held, and short talks were given by some of the older people. Such service are appriciated by the people, and oft times the Minister is able to bring a message to the sick, suited th the peculiar time and need.

Oct. 2nd we observed World Communion Sunday. Had a good service in the Church; about 34 being present. After the morning the Pastor and an Elder administered Communion in three homes where there were shut-ins on account of sickness. This is another service much appriciated by the people. After the evening Service a large group went to the home of a family, where the wife and mother had been sick for some months. For a long time is was feared she would not recover, but all are happy to know that she is slowly recovering, and so we called that a thanksgiving service. Both husband and wife have been very active in the Church since their joining a year ago, until she was taken sick. Both are willing workers in the choir, and talanted. This Fall three of their childen went to Sheldon Jackson School.

Last Thur. evening Mrs. Swogger and I invited the Choir to our home in order to stimulate a renewed interest in the work. They seemed to be so slow about taking hold again. We sent out invitations to more than fourty, and 35 were present; refreshments were served, and all voted a spendid evening.

Our people like to sing, and we like to learn new hymns, so the need for getting new books. Yesterday we introduced new Hymn Books in the Church. By liberal donations from a few people; contributions from the choir, C.E., Deacons fund, Womens Society, and a coffeee-sale, we were able to pay for the books. So now we have 150 brand new "Triumphant Service Songs" for use in the Church. We are keeping the old books for the Sunday School

Two weeks ago Mrs. Swogger organized a group of Sunday School girls into a sewing club. The average age is fourteen, and at present there are 17 members. The girls are very enthusiastic about the project, as they have had nothing like it, either in home or school, here to fore. She hopes to have a group of the younger girls come together, a little later. If I get through with the house in time, I plan to have a group of the boys come together for a recreation night night once a week.

Oct.
21st
1938

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

Replying to yours of September 16th, I wish to say that undoubtedly Mr. Swanson will find himself involved in various kinds of difficulties if he continues to accept orders for milk, flour and canned goods for the ministers of our own denomination and for others. He has no license to sell and transport merchandise, and he is in grave danger of having his license revoked. Will you kindly inform him as Chairman of the Committee that you have taken up this matter with me and that in the name of the Board I have requested him to discontinue the practice of taking orders for merchandise such as groceries, milk, flour, or canned goods, or in fact anything excepting materials which are used for the equipment of our churches and manses and which are carried at the request of your Committee or of the Board?

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In view of what you have written about Gibson Young, I feel that we cannot give him any appointment this year. Possibly he will find some employment in which he can earn sufficient money to pay his bills. Certainly a man of his characteristics is not able to represent the high standards of Christian life and work which we must maintain if we are going to set a good example to the natives and impress them with the sincerity of our Christian teaching.

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We will pay Mr. Swogger's rent for October but hope that he will push as rapidly as possible the completion of the new manse so that we may be saved this item of rent.

****

I am enclosing a catalogue of moving pictures of the Board of National Missions and also of the Board of Foreign Missions, which are available for use in any of your Alaska churches. Do you have a moving picture projector which you could use in exhibiting these films? If not, I shall be glad to do what I can to assist you in this matter.

Under the circumstances I favor releasing Mr. Swanson. I am willing to give him six months in which to secure other employment. In order that you may not be burdened with the responsibility for this matter, I am writing Mr. Swanson a letter, copy of which I am enclosing. I do not want to offend him, but I feel certain that under the circumstances and since to my certain knowledge he has been looking for another field, he will be glad to concur in our plans. We will then be very glad to offer the job of operating the Princeton to Mr. Falconer. At the same time I would like to find a good person whom we could appoint as presbyterial missionary, using the boat for his transportation. I agree with you that we cannot wait two years for Mr. Webster. What would you think of offering it to Mr. Christiansen? I am afraid he would not want it, but I have every confidence in him and I would be willing to appoint him as the presbyterial missionary for Alaska Presbytery with responsibility to assist all the missionaries and the churches in their work. I have not had an opportunity to see Mr. Christiansen. I have been in the West for the past month. If he calls in the office when he is through with his itineration - which I expect he will do - I shall question him concerning his attitude toward such an appointment.

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I understand from your letter that you are satisfied to permit Mr. Kaiper to settle at Klawock. I shall be awaiting your definite recommendation with reference to the matter of giving him aid. Notwithstanding his statement that the Klawock church would support him and that he would be satisfied to accept whatever they would give him, I note that he has signed the request of the session for a grant of $40 a month with the privilege of using the manse. He requests this, however, for only eight months. Kindly let me know whether your Committee approves of this grant for eight months at $40 a month. We shall take no action upon it until I hear from you.

****

With reference to the matter of a heater for the new manse at Metlakatla, I hereby authorize you to write to Mr. Swogger requesting him to secure a pipeless furnace and assuring him that the sum of $150 is available to cover the cost of the furnace and its installation.

****

I assume that you are looking to me to find a good man to take the work at Craig. The Craig church pledges $15 a month or only $180 a year. If we offer a man a salary of $1500 to serve Craig alone, it will mean that the Board would be required to provide $1320. If we must give Mr. Kaiper $40 a month for eight months in addition, we will be increasing the grant which we made last year to these two fields by several hundred dollars, which we are at present unable to do. Is there any other way of serving the church at Craig?

With reference to the salary of a helper on the Princeton, I am willing to provide $60 a month for the next six months, but we should not make any commitment with reference to a helper on the Princeton beyond next April pending the working out of our plans to appoint a presbyterial missionary with Mr. Falconer as the operator of the Princeton.

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Thank you for correcting me with reference to the matter of aid for Sam Davis. For the moment I had overlooked the fact that he was retired. There is no reason, however, why we should not be willing to pay him for painting the manse.

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I have a special gift from a lady which is available for Alaska work, and it is just about enough to increase the salary of George Betts to $75 a month. I have decided to use it in that manner at your urgent request. However, this does not mean that the other native men will each have $75 a month. I think that the salary ought to be determined at least somewhat on the basis of the efficiency of the worker. George Betts is quite superior to the others and he is worthy of a salary of $75 a month. We sent George's October salary at the usual rate of $50, but you may notify him of the increase and tell him to make out his next voucher for $75 for the month of November, and to interline these words: INCREASE FOR OCTOBER $25 - making the total of his next payment $100.

****

I will write the letter to Mr. Bromley that you have requested, making inquiries about Gustavus.

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We note that Mr. Johnson is to take the place of Andrew Wanamaker at Angoon. We shall authorize the payment of his salary at the rate of $50 a month as soon as we learn the date on which his service begins.

****

With reference to the matter of repairs to the Kake manse, I am writing to say that we have a small sum available in the repair budget which can be used to make these repairs in addition to the $40 which was allocated for repairs for Hydaburg. You may proceed at once with the expenditure of the $40 item and I will be glad if you will obtain an estimate of the further repairs that are needed for Kake so that we can secure the necessary appropriation. You may include in your estimate the cost of the new heater for the Kake manse which I understand will be $50.

****

There is a balance of $383. available out of the grant of $500

that was allocated for repairs to the church at Angoon. It will be entirely satisfactory for the Angoon church to make such improvements as are necessary to provide adequate space for the Sunday school and other activities out of this amount of money.

****

I heartily agree with you that it would be a very fine thing if we could employ a worker at Wrangell Institute. If we had sufficient money in the Alaska budget, I would feel that it would be a wise use of it to employ a religious education worker at the Wrangell Institute to spend his or her entire time in developing religious activities among the students. I have had this in mind for a long time but since no funds are available for the employment of such a worker, I have hardly dared even to mention it.

With kind regards, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

P. S. AS AN AFTER-THOUGHT: Before writing to Mr. Swanson suggesting that he discontinue his work on the boat as of April 1st, 1939, it occurred to me that we might offer to locate him at Craig or at Petersburg. During the winter he could give two Sundays a month to Craig and two Sundays to Petersburg. I hope that your Committee will approve that schedule and notify Mr. Swanson accordingly. Please tell him that this is the desire also of the Board.

If your Committee will approve of locating Mr. Swanson at either Craig or Petersburg as the regular missionary at one or the other of those places after April 1st, I can make arrangements to appoint him. I would like to be able to offer him one or the other of these fields in exchange for giving up the boat. Will your Committee approve or is it the judgment of the Committee that Mr. Swanson would not do acceptable work as a settled missionary on <u>any</u> field?

In writing me regarding this matter, and before I write to Mr. Swanson, I would like to have assurance from you that in releasing Mr. Swanson and in looking forward to the employment of Mr. Falconer in his place, we are acting in accordance with the desires of the National Missions Committee of the Presbytery. Please send me a statement on this point.

J.M.S.

Oct.
24th
1938

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I am writing to Mr. Kaiper today, in accordance with the recommendation of your National Missions Committee. I do not see how we are going to pay a man a salary of $1500 to handle the Craig field alone. The church promises to raise $180 a year, but that will mean in order to give a man a salary of $1500 the Board will have to provide $1320. In the present condition of the budget, that is impossible.

The only thing I could do would be to wait until next Spring and appoint a man at that time, because that would require only half a year's salary. We will be looking for a man whom we can recommend, and we hope that in the meantime arrangements can be made to give the Craig field service now and then. I wonder if Mr. Bromley could go over there about once a month, or would you prefer to have Mr. Swanson do it?

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
UNITED PROMOTIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
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KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

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REV DAVID WAGGONER,
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
October 31st 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed you will find the "Application for National Missions Aid" from the First Presbyterian Church of Sitka, Rev. J. L. Webster's report and narrative for this month.

These three papers do indicate growth and progress under Mr. Webster's leadership.

In a recent communication Mr. Webster asked me whether there had been any change in the amount of the salary for ordained missionaries. He was asking so that he would have the information in connection with his next pension dues payment.

You have been allowing me to have a total of $1575: that is $225 from the local field and $1350 from the Board. We have needed every cent of that amount, and have not found that we could make any savings. The missionary with a family needs that amount, and I have been thankful for it.

But I am thinking of Rev. J. L. Webster and Rev. A. D. Swogger. Both those missionaries have children who need support from their parents. I know that Mr. Swogger has been having a decided struggle for he has his children away to school.

Mr. Webster has one son out at Whitworth College. He has his other children at Sitka.

I do not know how the other members of Presbytery would react, but I wish that the forward step of $120 could mean a little raise of salary for both Swogger and Webster. Sitka's having taken that amount of additional self support would enable the budget to allow $50 a year more toward the salary of each of the two families mentioned, and there would be $20 left over. I know that there may be other calls for that $120.

Yet I wish that Swogger and Webster could be raised to a total basis of $1575 on account of their families. I am bringing this subject up to learn what you think of it, and would be willing to ask the approval of the ministers of Presbytery in case you so recommend.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
UNITED PROMOTIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
FOREIGN MISSIONS
REV. DONALD G. CHRISTIANSEN, CH.
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

PRESBYTERY
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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
MR. W. LESLIE YAW, CH.
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PENSIONS
REV. DAVID WAGGONER, CH.
JUNEAU, ALASKA
STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER,
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
November 1st 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed you will find the following papers:

Bills in connection with the repairs made by Rev. David Waggoner on the Juneau Manse. Since Mr. Waggoner advanced the money and paid the bills, the total of $66.80 should be sent him. The amount allowed in the budget for these repairs was $67.50.

Statement rendered by Architect N. Lester Troast, 60% of the $525 fee or $315.00, due on Plans and Specifications for Proposed Church Building of First Presbyterian Church.

"Application for National Missions Aid" from the Hoonah Presbyterian Church, submitted by Rev. E. E. Bromley. Mr. Bromley enclosed a note as follows: "Am enclosing Application blanks that I told you I was going to hold until I could have a session meeting. Had a good attendance and explained what the application should mean to our church. This is the first time I have had a chance to present it to the elders."

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

Somebody asked about Robert Joseph Diven. Mr. and Mrs. Diven are making their home in Portland, Oregon, 3256 S.E. Woodward St. He is not in active ministry, but is supplying once in a while. Oct 2nd, he conducted the Communion service in observance of the World Wide Communion out in the country near Portland. In their recent letter nothing was said about health and strength. We may just hope that they are doing nicely. I have not heard that he has added any more books since he wrote: "Howdy," "Tim Towser," and "The Black Wolf Mystery." We wish he would add another book. Our children reread his books. Our town librarian tells me the library copies are getting pretty well worn. They have real Alaska in them.

October 25th, the Episcopal, Salvation Army and Presbyterian workers participated in a Health Rally in Krangell Institute. The Superintendent presented the Anti Tuberculosis Association Christmas Seal Sale and organized a group to sell as many seals as possible among the Institute students. Following the Rally we conducted the regular Bible Classes. A number of the Institute young people are purchasing New Testaments and Bibles. The American Bible Society shipped me 20 copies of the 21st and 22nd Testaments on what they called their "Sale and Distribution Plan." We have been selling these at 10¢ and 15¢. These are fine inexpensive helps.

Rev. E.S.Knudson, Skagway, included the item that Mrs. Matthews, the mother of Tom Matthews of Skagway and of George Matthews of Haines, with whom many of us are acquainted died in October. Those of us who have preached in Skagway remember her faithfulness in the Christian life. Mr. and Mrs. Knudsen have taken her granddaughter, Eileen, to live with them. Eileen was Emma's daughter. Her father was white. Knudsens say that she is a charming and lovable little girl and they have grown quite attached to her. ... ..."The spiritual interest is growing in the church as was evidenced on World Wide Communion when our Communion set was far from adequate to care for the congregation. We will need a larger set. We are looking forward to a fine winter."

Wayworker George H. Betts, Kake, writes that their Sunday School has started and they are preparing for the Back Day Bible School. Many people are out, and on their return will be greeted by active services. The CCC men are to build a gravel road which will be a real benefit to the church. It will provide a safer road than the old plank walk. George has arranged for the CCC to excavate under the nave and Church for the road building materials. That means that they will have gone a long ways toward securing the church basement which has been needed.

Rev. T. M. Bromley has written that he wishes to use the film, "Our Church and Our Day." He also suggests that it would be helpful if we could have about four different pictures from as many countries to use in connection with a school of missions. I will try to secure more film. If you members of Presbytery who wish to use film will write me, I'll make special note and try to get the film to you at the time you may wish to use it.

Rev. Daniel Kaiper--at the request of the Klawock Presbyterian Church Rev. and Mrs. Kaiper returned to Klawock the 2nd of October. The Klawock Church has pledged to pay $20 a month and make other contributions to assist with their living expenses, and the Board is making a grant of $40 a month for a period of eight months. Mr. Kaiper wishes to serve Klawock alone. They expect to give full time the eight months he is employed, and then to fish or work at other labor the rest of the year.

Rev. J. L. Webster, Sitka, "With the opening of Sheldon Jackson School our congregation suddenly increased from about 100 to more than 200, and again we had our chorus choir of more than 30 students. The new members of S. J. staff are warmest Christian people who are fitting in excellently in our program. One of the most encouraging things that has happened to us this year is our annual 'Every Member' canvass which began Sept 22, and resulted in pledges more than 30% larger and more numerous than last year. This is due partly to the considerable increase we have had in white members of our congregation many of whom have pledged to the church for the first time this year; and second to the fact that we have adopted the Youth Budget plan. Last year the young people pledged about $100. This year the session asked them if they would be willing to undertake to pay for all the church fuel oil which we have budgeted for $160. The young people responded splendidly. Most all of them have pledged and the total has already exceeded $120. They have also pledged about $100 toward our benevolences. This has enabled us to take a forward step of $120 toward self support as well as securing our going over the top on our benevolence budget. Another forward step has been the organization of a young peoples' group made up mostly of S.J. alumni. They meet at the Manse Thursday evening immediately after the Sunday evening choir practice. The first hour is spent in fun; the second in discussion of some serious topic. Tonight we are going to work on the liquor problem. Another addition to our program is a week day church school for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders at the U.S. Bureau School. We are planning a mission to Hoonah, and Angoon for the first two weeks in November."

Rev. [illegible] PILOT, KINY, 10 p.m., just started his prayermeeting. Will stop and enjoy Rev. John A. Glasse's poetical meditations which do bring scattering sunshine to all who listen and think with him. The announcement was made that next Sunday, Nov 6, 4:30 p.m., Juneau time, Rev. John A. Glasse will bring a message on "The Relation of Home Life to Crime." We have been enjoying the Fuller Hour or the "Old Fashioned Revival Hour" which comes on the air at 5 p.m., Juneau time, over 1450.

Dr. Somerndike has informed me that we may have some moving pictures for use in our Alaska churches. Am asking him to have sent to us the following for use through the Presbytery. If your church wishes to secure the use of any of this film, please let me know, and the itineration will be facilitated. It will be 16mm Silent Film.

"Behind the Scenes in Chinatown" (2 reels) Scenes of San Francisco Chinatown and of the work at the Presbyterian Mission Home.

"The Rise of a Race" (3 reels) The Negro's background in the Southland--and the story of his rise as illustrated in one life.

"India--Through the Eyes of a Missionary Teacher" (2 reels)

"Love's Witness" (1 reel) An original Chinese production of the Parable of the Good Samaritan enacted by Chinese Christian high school students.

"Siam--The Land of the White Elephant" (2 reels)

Let me know whether you can secure the use of a 16mm projector for the showing of movie film you may request.

The Secretary for United Promotion has asked me to inform him as to the churches which observed the World Wide Communion, Oct 2nd. We enjoye the fellowship in Kenmell with a number of Institute students. Learn that the following churches observed that day also: Klukwan, Haines, Juneau Northern Light, Metlakatla, Juneau First and Skagway. Please let me know if any other [illegible] administered the Sacrament Oct 2nd in order that your Committee may make a complete report.

Cordially yours, Oct 1938

Russell F. Pederson
Kenmell, Alaska

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Box 275
Wrangell

November 1st 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Your letters of October 21 and 24 came last night and I have studied them carefully. Members of our National Missions Committee are much interested in the request of the Craig Presbyterian Church. Therefore I have reviewed the financial part of the appeal for the two fields: Craig and Klawock.

In the allocations you sent me as the budget for the coming year I find that the following is incorporated: "Craig & Klawock (Vacancy to be filled)Salary 1500 Travel 150" That would be a total of $1,650.00.

In the requests of Craig and Klawock which we recommended be granted the following financial obligations result:

Since Kaiper is serving on a layworker salary basis and the field is raising $20 a month, only $40 a month has been requested, for a period of 8 months per year--Total $320.00

Craig is requesting a full time ordained missionary, and the field has pledged as a start to pay $15 a month toward the total salary of $1500 for 12 months. That means Craig would be paying $180 of the $1500 which would leave a balance of $1320 for the total year 1320.00

$1640.00

For each year our Alaska budget would be $10 ahead of the game. I mean $10 less would be asked of the Board, and if the churches prosper there would be even less required.

As for this year, October has already passed away, and November will be gone before you can possibly find a man for the field. That means that you will have saved $220.00 by Nov 30th on the field's salary.

I cannot figure out a financial reason for not sending a worker to Craig by December first, this is because the Craig-Klawock field was included in the Alaska budget for this year.

Furthermore, as members of the N. M. Committee have written me, "My impression is that Craig is a place of real opportunity. It has grown a lot during the last few years and I believe that a man of ability and earnest spirit could build up a strong church there and start a program in opposition to the liquor traffic and other degrading influences." A spiritual opportunity confronts Alaska Presbytery. Moral conditions demand action in that community. The few Christian people in that growing community are pleading that the Presbyterian Church give leadership NOW. The field has been neglected too long.

Sincerely, Russell F. Pederson

It is impractical for Romely to go to Craig-the distance is 36 hours boat travel one way over possible rough water.
It is impractical to stay to combine Craig and Klawock for they are 13 hours apart
Craig + Klawock were the only practical combination

Box 275
Wrangell
November 2nd 1938

Mr. George R. Betts
Presbyterian Church
Kake, Alaska

Dear Brother:

Last Sunday we were thinking of you and the members of the Kake congregation for we expected that you were observing the day with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Our hope is that Kake may have the opportunity of the observation of the World Wide Communion in 1939.

Dr. Somerndike has advised me that through a special gift for Alaska work the grant from the National Missions Board toward your salary may be increased. Your October check was sent out as $50.00. I think that the grant from the Board will be increased to $62.50. Our understanding is that the Kake Presbyterian Church is raising locally and paying you $10 a month which will make your total salary $72.50 a month.

When you make out your next salary voucher, please make it out for $62.50, and then add a line as follows: "INCREASE FOR OCTOBER $12.50." The total of your next payment would be $75 so as to make up for October.

Dr. Somerndike has informed me also that the necessary repairs to the Kake manse may be made at once; I understood that they are as follows:

Material for back porch,
Material for new supports for front porch,
Flooring for dining room,
Paint or oil (your choice) for new floor.

Your authorization is to make these repairs but keep within $40.00. If more is needed, let me know and We'll try to secure additional appropriation.

Let me know exactly what the new heater will cost. We expect to secure sufficient appropriation to pay for that. Dr. Somerndike wrote to include the heater, about $50.

Am I correct in believing that the above named repairs are all that are needed at this time? If there is something else, it would be well to tell me about it at this time.

May God bless and lead Mrs. Betts and you as you press forward with the program of the winter.

Sincerely,

Russell T Pederson

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BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
November 2nd 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

In your letter of Oct 21st you state that you have a special gift which is available for Alaska work, and it is just enough to increase the salary of George Betts to $75 a month. In other words you have available $25 a month.

You are correct in your statement that George Betts is quite superior to the other layworkers. We have just two Indian layworkers at the present time. George Betts will appreciate your provision for a raise in salary for himself, but at the time he receives it, he will ask whether Samuel G. Johnson's salary was made the same. He will be dissatisfied if Samuel Johnson gets less than he does. George and Samuel are intimate friends, and they are both deeply consecrated Christian laymen. Samuel has the larger family.

Angoon pledged to pay $10 per month toward the salary of Layworker Samuel G. Johnson.

Kake paid $10 a month toward the salary of George Betts as their layworker last year, and they will do so again this winter.

Therefore I propose that you split that $25 and apply $12.50 to the salary of each of the layworkers.

That will mean that with the $62.50 from the Board and $10 from the field, they will have $72.50 a month, and I am certain that they'll be happy and can get along much more satisfactorily.

Dr. Somerndike, I know that the members of the N. M. Committee would much rather have the arrangement as I have proposed.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

P.S. Am attaching a carbon
of my letter to Mr. Betts.

Copy to Dr Somerndike

Box 275
Wrangell, Alaska
November 9th 1938

Rev. Daniel B. Kaiper
Klawock

Dear Dan:

Your report for the first fifteen days of October and the monthly voucher came the last boat. As I forward this on to Dr. Somerndike, I wish to make a suggestion as to the report and the voucher.

1. The report is correctly made out as to the dates.
2. The monthly voucher was made out for 1½ months:--Oct 1 to Nov 15th. The voucher should have been made out for October only, $40. Your next voucher should be made out for Nov 1 to 30.
3. You did not include a narrative such as the Board requests for forwarding along with the report.

Your note to me brings much enthusiasm and surely indicates that you are having a response.

In connection with your reception of 14 young people I wonder whether you had a class of training for church membership, a communicants' class. The Board expects that each missionary will conduct such a class preparatory to the reception of members on profession of faith. You did not make any record of holding such a class.

My own recommendation is that you bring that group of 14 young people into a special class. I have found that Dr. Hugh T. Kerr's manual, "Coming to the Communion," is good. I use it with all my groups, and I also use the new book, "Faith and Life." The Presbytery of Alaska is concerned about the stability of the communicants. The last two meetings of Presbytery we took that subject up with renewed emphasis. We feel that our members must know what they believe and have an outline as a skeleton about which to construct their faith as they follow your preaching.

Please accept these recommendations and suggestions as I intend them. You told me you wished me to stand by you, and I intend to do so. My conviction is that you act quite quickly and that you need to help the young people while they are deeply interested.

You made no record as to whether the Klawock congregation paid their $20 as salary. Neither did you indicate any other of the financial actions such as current expense.

Last night I had 64 in my young peoples' Bible class. We too are having a joyful experience in serving.

Best wishes. Sincerely,

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Wrangell
November 9th 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed you will find report blank for Rev. Daniel B. Kaiper.

Mr. Kaiper did not include a narrative report, but he added a short personal note to me from which I am quoting: "Here's good news--Sunday morning 14 young people joined the church. There were 85 present. In the evening our attendance was well over 200. We have 30 young people in the choir. Something has happened here at Klawock which I have never seen before. You may expect me to be writing you for permission to enlarge the church--we can't get them all in for worship--the people I mean. Our Sunday School attendance last Sunday was 85. The Lord is sure smiling upon Klawock. The young Salvation Army couple are very co-operative---also talented. They give us formidable competition, which peps the whole town up."

October 10th, I wrote the members of the National Missions Committee a long letter describing the Klawock-Kaiper situation at length; and I requested the members to let me know at once whether they recommend the approval of the Klawock request. Bromley, Webster and Prince wrote that they felt that under the circumstances it was best to send a recommendation to you that the request be granted. No word came from Rev. A. D. Swogger.

Under date of November 6th, Mr. Swogger finally wrote; and I will quote from his letter so that you may have more complete information: "I will not vote to have the Nat'l M. Comm.recommend to Dr. Somerndike that Rev.Kaiper be re-employed as a Minister of one of the Presbyterian Churches in this Presbytery. News has come to me from the Klawock Field that he is not conducting Services there with any dignity. It is not so much what some of them think of him as, some of the stunts they say is pulling, in connection with the WORSHIP SERVICE PROGRAMS that leads me to cast this my vote. Details regarding the situation will have to be worked out gradually, which task is not going to be an easy one. The work of the CHURCH is bigger than any one man, and if that man does not show that he has the stuff in him for making a good Missionary for JESUS CHRIST, the Committee must not shirk it's responsibility in doing its best in serving the CHURCH."

Dr. Somerndike, I am writing a letter today to Mr. Kaiper, and am enclosing a carbon copy so that you may know that I am attempting to help him.

Sincerely,

Russell F Pederson

Nov.
10th
1938

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

Replying to yours of October 31st, I am writing to say that the budget of this year is not sufficient to enable us to increase the salaries of the ordained white missionaries in Alaska. I am sorry that we shall not be able to increase the salaries of Mr. Webster or Mr. Swogger this year. The difference between your salary and the salary of the other white missionaries is accounted for by the additional expense incident to your work as Chairman of the Committee. You will remember that when your salary was raised slightly above the level of the other men, it was with this clear understanding. The saving in Mr. Webster's salary resulting from the increase in the gifts of the local congregation is needed to meet the emergencies that are constantly arising in connection with the Alaska work and which keep us in constant fear of overdrawing our budget.

I think it would be unwise to agitate the question of an increase in salary for all the ministers in the Presbytery at this time, because the Board simply is not in a financial position to make that possible and at the same time to do the other things that your Committee is so urgently desirous of having us do.

With kind regards, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

WRANGELL, ALASKA
UNITED PROMOTIONS
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Box 275
Wrangell
November 10th 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Last week, Mr. Joe Ramquist, brother-in-law of Rev. Verne J. Swanson, was southbound, and he came up to the Manse for a short visit. In the course of our conversation he told me that Mr. Swanson had turned his house over to three school teachers, two of which are teaching in the Petersburg public school, the other is keeping house for the two employed. Mr. Ramquist did not tell me the amount which Mr. Swanson is receiving as "rent" from these teachers.

Mr. Swanson submitted a voucher for $30 for the month of October for "Manse rent." I suppose that in a few days he will send along another for November. Mr. Swanson may state that he is simply renting his Manse so that the house will be taken care of during his absence on the Princeton. He may say that in the history of the Presbytery of Alaska Mr. Waggoner rented the upstairs of his Manse and had that as income. In fact Mr. Waggoner may have the upstairs of his Manse rented right now. Mr. Waggoner has told me that he needs the money. He told me that the rent of the upstairs of his Manse was paying for the oil burner and furnishings which the Board did not pay for. I do not recall all his story. It seems to me that it would have been better for the Board to have furnished that house.

Should there be a general requirement or is there one of which we do not know, such as that the Board requires that any money received from the rentals of Board owned property or parts thereof, or of property for which the Board is making rental allowance, be remitted along with the monthly report and salary voucher from each missionary? If there is such a rule in force, it seems to me that you might do well to remind us by a circular letter.

Rev. S. G. Davis is living in his own home. He is renting the Hydaburg Manse for a small sum, possibly $5.00 a month. He should be permitted to retain that rental, for he is receiving no rental allowance for the use of his own home as Manse. Furthermore he is receiving but a very small stipend as a salary from the field and no salary from the Board.

Have written the above for your information, believing that it will be for the good of all in the Presbytery although one or two might object.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

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Box 275
Wrangell
November 10th 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Last night we heard the radio news broadcast that work has started on the $20,000 Memorial Church which according to Rev. David Waggoner is being erected by the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church to replace the building formerly used by the First Presbyterian Church of Juneau.

I was surprised to hear the $20,000 announcement.

Mr. Troast mailed me a copy of the wire he sent you under date of November 2nd in which he stated that they could build within a total cost of $15,500, including the architectural fee. I received that letter on the 7th.

Cold weather seems to have arrived. Day before yesterday we had our first freezing temperature, and the thermometer is registering colder today. It is usually quite a bit colder at Juneau than in Wrangell. We can hope that the cold spell has been broken before they are ready to pour concrete. The snow is gradually creeping down the mountain but the light fall we had in town has disappeared.

We do hope that the new church building will be built for even less than you have been persuaded to approve. I believe that Mr. Waggoner will do his best.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

Box 275
Wrangell, Alaska
November 14th 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike: MONTHLY NARRATIVE

Our winter program of activities is keeping us happy.

The Sunday School is having good attendance, and we are finding some helpers. We are thankful that an increase of a few new ones adds life.

The missionary society is studying and working with more zeal and zest than any year before since we have been on the field. They are doing much fine needlework with the expectation of having a 'Christmas gift' sale. We feel that the work with their hands helps them feel they are participating. Some of our people with little money are helping in this way to support the current expense budget and benevolences. Mrs. Pederson is teaching a well received Bible course in the Life of Christ with the use of sets of large pictures which she has assembled through a number of years' use of the Graded Beginners' and Primary lessons.

Last week our Bible Class at Wrangell Institute had the best attendance for the year, 64 high school young people, and they are interested. They ask such questions as, "What is sin," "What does the Bible teach about the judgment," "Why do we worship on the first day of the week when God rested on the seventh," "Why do people call most priests, father, when their not supposed to because I think we've only got one and that's Jesus," "Why do I have trouble when I don't pray," "What is salvation," "What do they mean by spiritual worship," etc.

We can see that the Seventh Day Adventist tracts are getting into the hands of the students. The Adventists are visiting the homes of our people and entreating them to come to worship with them. Sunday night one of our members told us how that afternoon she was urged to go to the Adventist evening service instead of coming to our church. The Assembly of God has moved another couple to Wrangell. They have been up at Nome and are said to be wintering here preparatory to going into the Interior in the spring. This small community now has two new schools for the children. The adventists are meeting Saturday afternoons and the Pentacostal during our hour of morning worship. They are getting some away from each of the established churches.

Yes, we must pray and work, and visit.

Sincerely,

Russell Thelen

November 15th, 1938

Rev. Russell F. Pederson
Box 275
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

Replying to yours of November 2nd, I wish to say that we shall fix the salary of George Betts at $62.50 per month beginning December 1st, and you may notify Samuel G. Johnson that his salary will be fixed at the same amount, also dating from December 1st. We do not have enough money available to date this increase back to November 1st.

We wish it to be clearly understood that this does not commit us to the payment of $62.50 a month to all native workers who may be appointed in the future; nor does the Board feel that we are under obligation to maintain a policy of giving the same salary to everyone regardless of educational preparation or ability. So long as we cannot standardize men and ability there does not seem to be any good reason why we should insist upon standardizing salaries.

Your suggestion that we send a full-time worker to Craig has been very carefully considered. You realize, I am sure, that with a membership of twenty-nine as reported in the Minutes of the General Assembly, it hardly seems to be good missionary administration at a time like this when funds are so scarce, to employ a full-time worker with a full salary in such a small field. A missionary really cannot be kept busy enough to occupy his entire time in a field of such small numerical strength, with correspondingly limited opportunities for service. The mission boards of all denominations are endeavoring to look at situations like this in a realistic way. More and more we are realizing that small groups such as the church at Craig should be served on a part-time basis, not only in the interests of the best use of missionary money, but also in order to bring them into a combination of fields that will provide sufficient work to challenge the energies of a full-time worker.

As we consider the Craig situation, it seems to us that

the plan which we proposed in our recent letter, namely, that Mr. Swanson spend two weeks each month at Craig, and the remaining two weeks at Petersburg, is the most practical way of providing for both of these fields. Neither of them justifies the full time of a missionary. The fact that it is thirteen hours trip by water from Craig to Petersburg does not seem to us to be a real hindrance to the carrying out of this plan. It would mean that Mr. Swanson would make one thirteen-hour trip a month each way from Petersburg to Craig and that on each trip he would spend two weeks in that community. When he returns to Petersburg he will spend the following two weeks in Petersburg. So long as Mr. Swanson has the boat at his disposal, and since he has no other definite responsibility than the care of the church in Petersburg, we feel that it is the wisest use of his time and of missionary money to put this arrangement into effect.

Another reason why we have made this proposal is that we are not at all sure that Mr. Kaiper is going to be satisfied to continue his work at Klawock on a salary of $60 per month. I do not see how he can maintain himself for twelve months on a salary of $720. I think that his action in undertaking to do so was very impulsive and ill-advised, and I am almost ready to venture the prophecy, based upon his erratic actions, that he will come to the Board with a very emphatic and preemptory demand before long for a full-time salary such as we give to other missionaries in Alaska. If he should do this we would be obliged, in justice I think, to grant his request, provided he will take over the responsibility of Craig also, maintaining these two churches as a two-point field under one full-time minister. Should it be necessary, therefore, to pay him a full-time salary we would find ourselves utterly unable to do so if we spent the amount which we had allocated to Craig and Klawock and to a native worker for this year for a man to serve Craig alone. I cannot go to the Board for any additional money, and I do not want either your Committee or the Board to be placed "on the spot" by Mr. Kaiper when the time comes that he can no longer endure his present situation which he so gravely assumed. I am quite sure that the Board would have plenty of reason for censuring me for appropriating the money for a full-time ordained missionary for Craig alone, especially when Mr. Swanson has such small responsibilities at Petersburg and can easily carry both fields on the basis I have suggested.

I shall be glad to have the concurrence of your Committee in these plans. I shall then write to Mr. Swanson informing him of the arrangement and directing him to concentrate his attention upon Petersburg and Craig until next April, and at the same time informing him of our intention to release him next spring if possible from his present position as boat missionary. I would like your Committee's concurrence in this action also.

With best wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:PDS

November 17th, 1938

Rev. Russell F. Pederson
Wrangell
Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I was greatly pleased with the letter you wrote Mr. Kaiper. As I wrote you a few days ago, I do not have much confidence in him; nor do I believe that the present arrangement is going to last very long. Either he will blow up, or the presbytery will have to take a hand in the situation, and your committee will probably be recommending to me that the aid we are giving him be discontinued, which is equivalent to a dismissal.

I think that your committee ought to keep in close touch with the situation lest Mr. Kaiper bring our work into disrepute. We have always maintained the highest standards in presenting Christianity to the native people of Alaska, and we cannot permit Mr. Kaiper or anyone else to lower these standards.

I am not at all surprised at the comment of Mr. Swogger. In fact I am prepared for almost anything so far as Mr. Kaiper is concerned in the way of strange actions. As you know, I did not want him to return to Alaska and my first reaction to his proposal was that we would give him no aid whatever. It was only upon the recommendation of your committee that I granted the aid, and several times since I agreed to it I have repented of my action, for I feel sure he is going to give us all kinds of trouble. We shall see.

I hope you will write to him and tell him to make no changes whatever in the property without first consulting the

Board. He has no right to do anything with that property, since the Board owns it, without the Board's consent.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:PDS

Nov.
18th
1938

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

If it was announced over the radio that we are planning to spend $20,000 for the new Memorial Church in Juneau, it was an untruth. The contract has been let for $15,500, and we have informed them very positively and emphatically that we will not go beyond that amount. In addition we have paid $1600 for the land. Why do not people tell the truth?

Mr. Swanson will not receive any more money for rent of his house in Petersburg until he notifies us that he is occupying it, and that he is actually paying out the sum of $30 net per month. If he rents out any of the rooms, the income from such rental must be deducted from the $30. No missionary has any right to rent even one room in a property owned by the Board except upon authority from the Board; and in that case he is expected to remit the amount of the rental to the Board. If he follows any other policy, he is violating the Board's rules.

In the case of Mr. Waggoner, I will say that before I had anything to do with the Alaska work, he was given authority by the Treasurer's Office to rent the upstairs of his manse with the understanding that the rentals would be used to pay for the oil burner which he installed at his own expense. When that payment was completed, he was expected to refund whatever he received in rentals to the Board. If he is not doing that, he is following what I would call a dishonest course. At least, he is not playing fair with the Board. This matter should be looked into.

Mr. Davis should remit to us the sum that he receives from the rental of the manse and add $5 per month to his voucher for rental for himself. The Board requires that this policy be followed in all cases.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Nov.
21st
1938

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

We have definitely offered the position of general missionary in Alaska to Donald Christiansen, and we are hopeful that he will accept. He is young, vigorous, has progressive ideas, is thoroughly evangelistic, and will do good work in this position. We will employ Mr. Falconer as the engineer on the Princeton. The Princeton will be placed entirely under the control of Mr. Christiansen, and it will be operated under his instructions. This will give us the assurance that it will not be used for the transportation of passengers or for fishing expeditions, but it will be kept busy on the kind of errands for which it was constructed.

I have wired Mr. Waggoner that we want Mr. Glasse to be invited to participate in the laying of the cornerstone of the new Memorial Church which we are building in Juneau. This is the right and courteous thing to do, and under ordinary conditions it would be done without any suggestions from the headquarters office. In view of the strained relations between Mr. Glasse and Mr. Waggoner, I fear that Mr. Waggoner might have ignored Mr. Glasse in connection with the laying of the cornerstone. If you are invited to participate in these exercises, I hope you will support the instructions I have given Mr. Waggoner in recognizing Mr. Glasse in this and in any other ceremonies having to do with the building of the new native church.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

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SITKA, ALASKA

PENSIONS
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JUNEAU, ALASKA

STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER,
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
Nov. 23rd 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed you will find the reports for Rev. E. E. Bromley, Layworkers George R. Betts and Samuel G. Johnson.

Layworker George R. Betts asked me to thank you for securing the raise for him. He wrote that he received a check for $100.00. If you follow my advice which was to allow him $62.50 a month, his next check will be for $37.50. He has not informed me that the field has paid anything toward his salary, but I am certain that they will do so.

My prayer is that all our fields may work toward more self support.

Layworker Samuel G. Johnson is a good Christian worker, but he is not so satisfactory at making out reports.

He wrote that although he had been away from the field part of the time, he had arranged for the preaching services. While on a trip to Juneau to have dental work done, he purchased winter supplies and lumber and nails for certain repairs on the Angoon Church building. On his run over to Sitka he secured the fuel oil supply for the Angoon Church. Angoon is isolated and the people have to make their purchases of many essentials in larger towns.

The fine Lutheran woman who had been such a help last year in Angoon as the Sunday School Superintendent has moved to Hoonah. Mr. Johnson writes that his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Catherine Johnson, with the help of one of the school teachers is directing the Sunday School activities. Mr. Johnson is a first class organizer, and does get other people to work. That is one reason why the village wished him to resume leadership.

I have written Mr. Johnson requesting him to send a carefully prepared report of activities next month.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

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Box 275
Wrangell
November 23rd 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Under date of October 21, 1938, you added a post script concerning Rev. Verne J. Swanson. The last part of that had, "In writing me regarding this matter, and before I write to Mr. Swanson, I would like to have assurance from you that in releasing Mr. Swanson and in looking forward to the employment of Mr. Falconer in his place, we are acting in accordance with the desires of the National Missions Committee of the Presbytery. Please send me a statement on this point."

In order to ascertain the judgment of the members of the National Missions Committee, I wrote to them as follows: "The following proposition has been put up to us, and I request that you as a member of the National Missions Committee write me definitely on each part of the proposal at your earliest opportunity.

1. That Rev. Verne J. Swanson be released from boat work as of March 31st 1939.
2. That a new plan of operation of the M/s Princeton be started as of April 1st 1939: a general missionary for Alaska Presbytery with itinerating responsibilities using the Princeton as his means of transportation, and a competent Christian layman to operate the Princeton.
3. That Mr. Philip Falconer who has been recommended as a skilled navigator and small boat operator and who has a strong personality and good reputation for Christian character be employed as the operator of the Princeton beginning April 1st 1939.
4. That the Board of National Missions appoint a qualified ordained minister as the general missionary.
5. That Mr. Swanson be given opportunity to serve as the missionary at Petersburg where he has purchased a residence.
6. That Mr. Swanson be given opportunity to serve as the missionary at Craig.

In order that you may have complete information, I will give you the answers which came from the members of the National Missions Committee.

Rev. A. D. Swogger wrote: "There are a number of questions thrust themselves into the foreground in this letter of yours of Nov. 1st, so that I am not able to answer all the questions definately. First, A proposition as been put up to the Comm. but no mention is made as to who presented. If I knew who presented it, I would be the better able to answer.

Am continuing the quotation from Mr. Swogger:

"1. Regarding relieving Swanson from the Boat "Princeton" I can vote YES.
"2. The first part of #2 about begining the new order April 1st, 1939, YES; Then comes the general Missionary term, which to me needs very definate explination, and interpretation. I think such a term should be very definately defined. When such a wieghty question as dismissing one man and starting a new order of things comes up, at least to me, it needs very thorough consideration, so I would reserve my vote on the following questions until further consideration, and more light comes to me.
"About #6, I think it would be unwise to even suggest putting Swanson in Craig, knowing Kaipers feeling toward him, and keeping Kaipers past relations with that Church in mind. So I would have to vote NO to that question.
"If Somerndike wants the Comm. to discuss and settle the "BOAT" proposition, I think the Comm. should be given opportunity to get together and go over the whole matter."

Rev. E. E. Bromley wrote: "Your hurry up letter asking for our views on personel for operating Princeton at hand. Mr. Webster was here with some of his people when your letter came. We held a meeting of the National Missions Com. and decided to suggest that this matter be held over until we can all get together. It is to important to decide by simply writing letters. For one thing who is responsible for sidetracking the recommendations presented to Presbytery last spring at Angoon and proposing an entirely new plan for operating the Princeton. I do not think an experienced laymen to operate the boat with an ordained man to do the mission work is either as efficient or as inexpensive as the plan passed on by Presbytery last spring. I am wondering if we can secure young Falconer for instance for the same salery we would pay Swanson and have him remain as boat man. For one I am not willing to vote Swanson out of his present job. Anyway there is no particular rush about this change. Let it be done according to the rules of Presbytery. If Somerndike insists on an early decision better arrange for the Princeton to pick up the Com. for a meeting."

Rev. Jackson L. Webster wrote: "I'm happy to know that Mr. Price and I are helpful to you in your hard task of N.M.Chairman. I always try to consult him before writing to you and my suggestions are often influenced by his judgments.....I don't know whether I wrote you about Dr. S's letter asking me if I would take the position of Princeton missionary after we got our new church built here at Sitka. I answered that I would be willing to do it if Presbytery and the Board felt I should, but that I did not feel at all sure of my ability to meet the physical difficulties of the job and hesitated to make the sacrifices it would mean for our home. I also said I didn't think I could work harmoniously with Swanson as operator.
"On this trip I have done a lot of thinking and praying about the matter and reached one definite decision--to withdraw the objection to working with Verne. I believe we could get along all right. I know that part of the friction I have had with him has been my own fault and we got along without any trouble on this trip. I am more than ever impressed with the impossibility of operating the Princeton on the small budget allowed and also doing the missionary

Am continuing the quotation from Mr. Webster:

work we feel is needed. I also have begun to wonder if it is not God's call to me to undertake the boat work. My experience in it in July and the past two weeks has shown me so clearly needs and opportunities which in a measure at least I could meet. God was with us on this trip and would surely give me strength to meet His requirements. I feel inclined to put it into the hands of Presbytery and the Board and say I will do it if in your judgment I am capable. Remember that I have no skill as an operator or navigator and would be very little help to that side of the work.

"As to Verne, I believe he would like to leave the boat and settle on the Petersburg field. Given time to dispose of his house, I think he would accept a call to any other field. I think it would be well for you to talk to him about this. I feel sure Mrs. Swanson wants it. As to dates for these changes, I would favor leaving that indefinite. I believe next summer would be a better time to think of than March 31st. Verne will be going outside then and we will have to put a new operator on during his absence. Verne told me he believed Eugene would be able to handle it by that time. I doubt if he would want the job permanently. He is going to make a fine helper to Verne in his missionary work. Another fellow who has the mechanical training and also a lot of ability as a missionary is Don George. Given the necessary training in navigation and he would make a fine man for operator. As to Philip Falconer, I am sure he would be ideal from the mechanical side and believe him to be a very genuine Christian. I don't know anything of his ability in Christian leadership. Has he expressed his willingness to work on the missionary salary? Don George seemed much interested when I talked to him about the matter on our trip. His wife would be an ideal partner--a strong Christian, a good singer and a stenographer."

Now, Dr. Somerndike you have read the replies of the members of the National Missions Committee. I will make a few comments for myself personally.

First, I believe that it would be for the best interests of the boat work to make a change about Presbytery time. I suppose that it may be more generous to delay the time of the change, and thus give Mr. Swanson time to request a field.

Second, Mr. Bromley asks who sidetracked the recommendations of Presbytery, or rather the ones presented to Presbytery. They went to you in the N. M. Committee report. The Committee with Mr. Glasse as Chairman presented to Presbytery for recommendation to the Board a request for an "Additional missionary $1525 to work on the Princeton." I think you registered a conviction that a layman as an operator would be more practical. I agreed with you, and continue to hold that conviction. Perhaps Mr. Don George who is on the staff of the Sheldon Jackson School has stronger qualifications on some points than Mr. Philip Falconer who certainly is a tried and proved navigator who has had years of experience in these waters. I do not know Mr. Don George. I met him when he passed through Wrangell, and my first impression of him was good. Mr. Falconer is willing to take the position on a missionary salary. I do not know how long he will be available. I am not urging his employment. I thought him a real find.

Mr. Webster and Mr. Swanson seem to think that Eugene Bromley, the son of Rev. E. E. Bromley, will make a fine helper on the Princeton. He began work about the middle of this month. Eugene is a graduate of Park College, took an extra year in graduate work, and has not been able to obtain steady employment. I understand that he majored in Sociology with the intention of securing a government position in Public Social Service. He worked for a time last summer on a government survey near Hoonah, and then for a couple of months this winter as a substitute teacher in the Hoonah Indian School. He has been on the boat, "A.L.Lindsley," with his father, and has had a little gas engine experience. He is a good pianist. Mrs. Pederson and I have had some contact with him as he passed back and forth on his way to College. The last time he went south, he waited for the steamer to call at Wrangell. I cannot think of him as a reliable man with qualities necessary to serve as the operator of the Princeton. He may do very well as a "helper." Mrs. Pederson and I feel that he is too much like a "kid" to hold peoples' confidence as a boat Master.

I feel that Eugene has no more of a vision of "Boat missionary service" than his father has shown. I am not against his being on with Swanson as a helper, but I do not feel that he is qualified, or will be, to be a layman operator.

I agree with Mr. Swogger that it would be a mistake to consider Mr. Swanson's serving Craig. Mr. Kaiper states that he wishes to be friendly with Swanson. Swanson did not show a good spirit when in my presence Mr. Kaiper wished to shake hands with him and start all over again. Swanson shook hands with Kaiper, but was pretty cool. Since that time Swanson has seemed to feel it his duty to tell things he has heard. I fear there will not be friendliness between them. Mr. Kaiper has to go to Craig for some supplies, and he has many friends there. It seems to me that Swanson can go to Craig occasionally and hold a service, but for him to be stationed on that field is to invite hostility; and I think Swanson would decline.

For the National Missions Committee to meet before January 1st is not practicable. Such a meeting would mean that two of the members would be away from their fields almost a week if not more, and time is too precious at this season. Furthermore, such a trip would entail getting through whether the weather favored or not. I think the letters quoted above give you the minds of the members, and that little more would be accomplished by our meeting at this time.

My own conviction is that the securing of the right personnel for the Princeton will depend on your decision. As I have warned you before, the operator who takes over that boat will have plenty to do. Some people may be satisfied with the condition of the equipment, but I am not.

Again, it seems so difficult to just make a break and release Swanson when one member of the committee is against making the change, and another member thinks he will make the change himself before long.

Awaiting your advice or instruction before I do any more writing on this subject.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
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WRANGELL, ALASKA
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Box 275
Wrangell
Nov. 26th 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Thank you for your letter of the 15th which arrived yesterday, and I have been thinking about it much of the time since.

You will recall that I have insisted all the while that Klawock and Craig should be served by one missionary as a two station field. Because members of Presbytery and others insisted on allowing one field to be served on a layworker basis with the other served by an ordained minister, and you concurred in that; I finally reluctantly agreed to that plan, although my conviction has been and is that the two towns or communities can be adequately served by one good minister.

You will find on rereading Klawock's application and my letter accompanying same that Mr. Kaiper is not expecting to maintain himself for twelve months on $480.00. Mr. Kaiper is expecting to serve the church eight months in the year, the same as the layworkers serve Kake and Angoon. The Klawock Church members have agreed to help him find other work for the four summer months when he may work in a cannery or be out ffishing to bring an income of approximately $1,000--more or less depending on the season and his ability. I have no idea as to how long Kaipers will last. He emphasized that he will not expect more support from the Board, but will work with the people toward self support; and the Session of the Klawock Church agreed to that plan. He wrote that they had paid him the $20 a month for October and November.

Since Kaiper is serving Klawock, and as far as we know will not serve Craig; we as a Presbytery must minister to that field or lose it. The Craig Session wants the Presbyterian Church to decide what we intend to do. If we keep on delaying, some other denomination will enter, and we cannot expect the church members to wait indefinitely. We cannot measure our opportunities by the present church roll, for Craig has not been served by an active pastor since Rev. R. R. Falconer died. In the meantime the community has been growing. Craig is becoming a more important fishing center. Of course the total population is small. The moral conditions are fearful and influence both Hydaburg and Klawock. You realize that Hydaburg is but 40 miles south of Craig, and the Presbyterian ministry on that field is an Indian minister over 70 years of age. His income is the small amount contributed by the Indian Church. There is no available transportation to permit the minister in Hydaburg to serve at Craig nor for the Craig man to serve at Hydaburg.

Mr. Swanson's present responsibilities include doing all that is being done at the village of Kasaan, serving the Presbyterian Church at Petersburg, and giving assistance to the churches with layworkers at Kake and Angoon.

In the light of the responsibilities suggested in the foregoing paragraph, your suggested plan of having Mr. Swanson serve two weeks at Craig and two weeks at Petersburg each month is not practical.

Mr. Swanson may divide his time as follows: be a week at each of the five communities of Craig, Petersburg, Kasaan, Kake and Angoon; and have nobody satisfied. Furthermore, no man can accomplish any satisfying results with such a plan.

Craig Presbyterian work will not advance unless we as a Presbytery arrange for an ordained missionary to spend most of his time on that field for a long enough time to get activities and program under way.

I am surprised that the Pentacostal or Assembly of God missionaries have not gone out to Craig. They would not need a second invitation. Their district superintendent is in Wrangell this week, and he is arranging a place of worship down on front street. They have been renting an upstairs room in a hall, but are securing an old store building. They seem to have a number of available missionaries and preachers.

In case Kaiper blows up or for some other reason leaves the Klawock Church, a good missionary at Craig could reach into Klawock and help to save the situation. The missionary with a strong, well grounded Presbyterian wife could accomplish much on the West Coast as well as at Craig.

Sincerely,

Russell F Anderson

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Box 275
Wrangell
December 3rd 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Thank you for sending the film and projector for use in the Presbytery of Alaska the next four months.

Rev. Verne J. Swanson called on me yesterday. In our conference I read to him your statement which I am sending out to all the workers, "No missionary has any right to rent even one room in a property owned by the Board of National Missions except upon authority from the Board; and in that case he is expected to remit the amount of the rental to the Board. If he follows any other policy, he is violating the Board's rules."

Mr. Swanson, at first, said that the rule does not apply to him as the Board does not own the house. I told him that since he is receiving $30 a month from the Board for rent for a manse, his house is in the class of Board property. He denied that he has turned the house over to renters, and stated that he is renting one room for $15.00 per month. Mrs. Swanson did not accompany him on this trip. Therefore I judge that he is renting a room with the privilege of use of other parts of the house, and that Mrs. Swanson has the use of the house as home when she is not out on trips with Mr. Swanson.

I definitely informed him that he must remit that rental money of $15 a month to the Board of National Missions.

He stated that his purpose in renting a room was to have someone in the house to keep things from freezing during his absence during the winter months.

He very likely will remit the rental soon, and it will be best for you to O K his rental expense vouchers so that the allowance for rent he has received may continue.

Mr. Swanson will be sending you a sum of $15 which he received on a visit to Klawock. A party rented the Klawock manse for a month just prior to the return of Kaipers. He held that for a time at my suggestion. I asked him to remit it at this time.

Enclosed you will find an expense voucher for repairs to the Hydaburg manse. Mr. Davis informed me that he needed two bundles of shingles at once for the Hydaburg manse, and I advanced payment for same, and have refunded him for the freight. Am writing him in this same mail that he is to remit the rent he receives for the manse as per your instruction.

Sincerely,
Russell F. Pederson

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Box 275
Wrangell, Alaska
December 6th 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Your letter of November 21st came to me yesterday. I was rather surprised to receive it because I did not think that you had had time to receive my letter with the quotations from the other committee members.

If Mr. Christiansen accepts the position of general missionary as you indicated you expect, the field of Ketchikan and Saxmon will be vacant.

Mrs. Pederson and I have been talking over the possibility that you might like to know that we would not object to a transfer to that field. We do not know how other members of Presbytery might feel nor whether the Ketchikan folks would like to have us serve there. You may have some knowledge as to that point.

To accommodate our family we would have to make use of some unfinished space which has so far been used as a storeroom. That would not require a large sum. We have talked the matter over quite carefully, and do feel that school privileges and other opportunities for children are very good in Ketchikan.

Of course it is not so easy living upstairs with a large family, but it could be done. The erection of the federal building across the street from the church has made the location more favorable.

We love Wrangell, and we recognize that our manse and church have the nicest location you can find in all Alaska. We know that there is much to do here. Yet, we wonder whether a missionary should remain on the same field much more than eight years. We have been in Wrangell since September 1930, and have enjoyed our ministry.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
UNITED PROMOTIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
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JUNEAU, ALASKA
STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER,
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
December 7th 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed you will find a letter addressed to me by Layworker George Betts. Mr. Betts asked permission to permit the CCC to do the excavating for the basement which the Kake Church has wanted so much. I told him that I thought his idea was good, but that he must see that the building is protected in every way, especially by watching for foundation strengthing. Evidently they are taking good care of that part.

Mr. Betts submitted the enclosed bill which is for the stove about which I wrote you some time ago. Mr. Betts will be using the stove when the real cold weather comes. I am thankful that he has some wood to help cut down the fuel oil costs.

Have read Mr. Waggoner's letter to you, and noted the part relative to the "Corner Stone." He has written me no word on the subject of time or participants. You will find his letter and report for the past month herein.

Thank you for permitting me to read Mr. Bromley's detailed report on the situation at Gustavus. I have been listening to the radio reports on governmental developments. There has been nothing new, as far as we have heard, on the development at Gustavus. I doubt that there will be such a development at Gustavus as there was at Matanuska. There will be plenty of time for action when something is actually started. With Gustavus so near to Hoonah, the Hoonah missionary should be well able to take care of and extend our Presbyterian interests. I have felt that Mr. Bromley should visit Gustavus at regular intervals during the part of the year that weather permits safe travel, and that he should have a Vacation Bible School there each summer. Am returning his letter herein.

Sincerely,

Russell F Pederson

Dec.
7th
1938

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I have your letters of November 23rd and 26th. Realizing the embarrassment that you and the other members of the National Missions Committee of the Presbytery might feel in expressing a frank opinion with reference to the release of Mr. Swanson, and feeling that we were sufficiently informed concerning the attitude of most of the brethren in Alaska Presbytery regarding the whole situation as it concerned the use of the Princeton, we therefore took the initiative in notifying Mr. Swanson of the new program for the Princeton which has been approved here at headquarters. I sent you a copy of the letter I wrote Mr. Swanson.

After carefully considering the whole matter here in the New York office, we decided in response to the desire so often expressed by you and others for the appointment of a general missionary, to offer this appointment to Mr. Christiansen to begin April 1st with the understanding that the Princeton would be at his disposal, thus avoiding any possibility of its continued use for fishing expeditions, carrying passengers, and other purposes not contemplated at the time it was put into commission for mission service in Alaska.

We informed Mr. Christiansen that we were prepared to employ Mr. Falconer as the operator of the boat. He will not be required to do any missionary work except as he wishes to take advantage of opportunities to witness for Christ as he takes Mr. Christiansen upon missionary itinerations into the fishing and canning villages under the new program of evangelistic extension upon which we have been so anxious to embark. Since Mr. Falconer has been represented to us as being such a fine Christian character, we are sure that he will be able to render valuable assistance to Mr. Christiansen in this and in other ways.

In informing Mr. Swanson of the Board's program in appointing Mr. Christiansen as general missionary and stating that Mr. Christiansen would have full responsibility in directing the movements of the Princeton, we told Mr. Swanson that we assumed that this would not be a congenial situation for him and for that reason we were notifying him now so that he might have an opportunity to seek another field. Because of his uncooperative attitude toward the Committee of the Presbytery, and also because of reports that have come to us that his preaching activities were not particularly acceptable to our Alaska congregations, we did not offer him the field at Craig with a salary of $1320 per year from the Board and the use of the manse. I understand that the Craig congregation will pay $180 per year. However, I am writing to Mr. Swanson today, asking him whether he would be willing to accept this assignment. I do not have any hope of his being able to develop anything very effective at Petersburg.

This appointment at Craig would take effect April 1st. This would mean that Mr. Swanson would continue his work at Petersburg until that time. The fact that Mr. Kaiper and Mr. Swanson are not on a friendly basis should not interfere in the slightest with the appointment of Mr. Swanson to Craig if he can do the work. In making assignments of missionaries to any fields we should not take into consideration the question of any personal animosities between them and others unless they are of such a character that they will work injury to the cause, and in that case both parties in such a situation would be equally culpable.

Under this arrangement Craig would not have any service until April 1st. This seems to be the best we can do under the circumstances. In principle this whole setup is wrong. Craig and Klawock should be served by one missionary, and as soon as Mr. Kaiper leaves the field - which I have a feeling will be rather soon - we shall re-unite these two fields under one man. Neither of them justifies the full time of one missionary. There isn't enough work in these two small villages to keep a man busy on a full-time basis or to challenge the best that is in him and to sustain his enthusiasm. Indeed, I feel that it would be rather difficult to justify the salaries of two missionaries for two small fields like these.

As soon as we hear from Mr. Swanson, agreeing to these arrangements, we shall approach Mr. Falconer with reference to an appointment as the operator of the Princeton. We do not favor the appointment of Eugene Bromley in that capacity. We appreciate the spirit which prompts Mr. Webster to change his mind about the possibilities of the work of a general missionary, but since we approved the reasons which he gave for not accepting the position we feel upon more mature consideration of the matter that he was providentially guided in his first decision to reject such an appointment.

I note in your letter that you feel that Mr. Kaiper has many friends at Craig and that the appointment of Mr. Swanson to that field would "invite hostility". I am not sure whether you mean that it would invite hostility between Kaiper and Swanson or between Swanson and the congregation. If the only hostility that would develop would be such as would arise between Mr. Kaiper and Mr. Swanson, I do not think that we need to concern ourselves about that. The Board's action in this matter obviates any necessity for the meeting of the National Missions Committee to discuss it.

Trusting that these arrangements will meet with your approval, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

P. S. Under this agrangement we shall not be able to provide any services for Craig until April 1st.

J.M.S.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Peter Simpson - - Sitka
Ralph Young - - Sitka
Andrew P. Hope - Sitka

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Frank D. Price - - Sitka
Louis Shortridge - Sitka
S. G. Davis - Hydaburg
Frank Booth - - - Kake

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Louis F. Paul - Wrangell
Wm. L. Paul - - Juneau
F. G. Johnson - - Kake

ALASKA NATIVE BROTHERHOOD

CYRIL J. ZUBOFF,
Grand President

ROBERT P. PERKINS,
Grand Secretary

DEC. 8, 1938

Rev. Russell Pederson,

Wrangell, Alaska.

Dear friend;--

Herewith hand you a circular which I am asking you to forward to Rev. Someryndike. I have reference to the Native Pres. Church. I think your committee had something to do with creating this situation wherein our people walk the streets while Swedes get the job. There can be no excuse on the ground that the contractor controls this matter in the light of the fact that Rev. Beck built a similar church and gave equality of opportunity to our people.

Of course the credit side of the work of the ~~Pres.~~ Church is greater than the debit side. But why any debit side?

Yours sincerely,

Wm L Paul

Grand Secretary

VOLUME 1 No. 2 From the organized Indians of Alaska
THE ALASKA NATIVE BROTHERHOOD--Secretary's Office.

TO ALL CAMPS:--

The first order of business in your Camp is always "FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER" meaning "the good of its members".

We were impressed when we heard that the AFL at Ketchikan had a working balance of $8,000 cash to carry on its business.

We know of many Indians who could not afford to pay their ANB dues of $6 but who paid $20 to an outside union in some cases where their total net earnings were not over $25.00.

Courageous Indians are resisting the threats of union organizers. At Yakutat the CIO organizer said "If you don't join us, next year you will be sitting on the beach watching us fish "

The CIO organizer in Ketchikan said to one of our friends "If you don't pay your dues, we'll see that you don't get any work NEXT YEAR", and this to a person who had only earned $7.50.

A general protest came to us from a man who says that he has not paid his ANB dues. We replied by asking the following questions which we now pass on to you--1) Why should the ANB stand aside when its members constitute the majority? 2) Even where the AFL is in the minority, it keeps its organization intact, so why isn't it good business for the ANB to do likewise? 3) In the light of what we learned last summer, what is there that the AFL or the CIO could do that the ANB could not do? 4) Do you honestly believe that the ANB can live in the face of outside union competition which takes from us the little we have for dues? 5) Is it your wish that the ANB disband? If not, how do you propose to keep it alive?

THE ANB IS THE ORGANIZED INDIAN OF ALASKA. His fight is for equality everywhere not only in fish. We issue this broad challenge that every material progress made by the Indians has been the result of this organized effort and we have benefited even those who refuse to give us any support.

THERE WAS A TIME WHEN THE ORGANIZED INDIANS HELD THE BALANCE OF POWER. Today, the Indian has in fact no governor, no delegate to Congress, nor any other officer outside of the Office of Indian Affairs who will put up a fight for an Indian's rights. Rather every such officer either stands idly by and sees those rights impaired or actively encourages such wrongs. A bunch of Swedes are XX building a church for Indians in Juneau and its pastor says that XX he can't help it. But why?

How foolish we have been to throw away the power we had to protect ourselves? Are we going to continue especially by turning over to outside unions what we should and can do for ourselves?

Yakutat went over 100% determined that where Indians are in the majority, we shall do our own bargaining. I am expecting Sitka to do likewise, and everywhere else where the strong men love their own people.

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM L. PAUL
Grand Secretary

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BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
Dec. 10, 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Herewith you will find the friendly letter of Mr. Wm L. Paul and the circular letter he asked me to forward to you.

This came yesterday, and today Mr. Paul was in Wrangell, and I thanked him personally for his communication. I was glad to be able to acknowledge it personally rather than by a letter.

My idea is that his communication needs no more attention than I have already given. He knows that the Board must work by contract. He insists that some provision should have been made that the Indians would get some of the work. He states that some of the church members are angry that they cannot get jobs on the building.

Mr. Paul further adds that he believes the whole plan of building that church is a mistake, that it is to be a monument to Mr. Waggoner's failures. He objects to the location and plenty of other things.

Since you know Mr. Paul, I think that this need take no more of your attention at this time.

Sincerely,

Russell F Pederson

Dec.
13th
1956

Rev. R. F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I have your letter of December 6th. I would gladly consider your application for transfer to Ketchikan were it not for the fact that I have received a disappointing letter from Mr. Christiansen this morning in which he gives excellent reasons for not accepting the appointment which we offered him. He expects to remain in Ketchikan, where he feels that there is a great challenge for service.

Thanking you for your kind thought in the matter, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Dec.
14th
1938

Rev. R. F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I am writing to Mr. Swanson today. I have lost patience with him entirely. It seems rather strange that either you or the Board would have to remind a man with reference to a matter upon which he should have been prompted to act on the basis of common honesty.

Do I understand from your letter that we are renting the Hydaburg manse? If that is the case, I hope you will see to it that Mr. Davis remits to the Board the amount of the rental he receives.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Box 275
Wrangell, Alaska
December 16th 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike: NARRATIVE, WRANGELL FIELD

Thanksgiving was the important day of the past month. Thanksgiving Sunday we had a special National Missions service. The Sunday School had the annual emphasis on gratitude for Christian work in the United States. On Thanksgiving Day itself we participated in a Community Service which was held in the Episcopal Church with the Episcopal Deacon, the Pentacostal District Superintendent, and the Presbyterian minister taking parts of the service. The town mayor read a Thanksgiving Day proclamation. In this service an offering was made for China Relief.

Our Missionary Society has been working for several weeks in preparation for their Christmas Gift sale. Each evening they sewed together, Mrs. Pederson had the pleasure of presenting a lesson on the Life of Christ. She used the large graded lesson pictures, and the women who do not understand English so well received assistance through an interpreter. We use no interpreter in any of the services. Therefore the smaller group appreciates the occasional use of the Indian language. Part of the proceeds of the sale are to be used for fruit at the Christmas tree, fuel for the church kitchen, and the paying of the balance yet to be raised for the neon cross to be erected on the church steeple. This first American Church in Alaska will soon have the lighted cross which it is hoped will be a light for the mariners sailing toward Wrangell and to the souls which need guidance and renewed strength in Wrangell.

We are thankful that the other organizations of our church are functioning better than usual. We are making preparation for a strong musical service for Christmas Sunday. We wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

1

NATIONAL MISSIONS
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BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
December 20, 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed you will find the following which were left by Rev. Verne J. Swanson:

Salary Voucher for Eugene Bromley,	$60. ✓
Expense " Kake Manse repairs	$ 6.94 ✓
Expense " Petersburg repairs	$11.20 ✓
Princeton Maintenance	$39.26 ✓
His salary voucher	$127.,08 ✓
December rent voucher	$30.
Check for Month rent Klawock Manse	$15.00. ✓

I did not look at the bills before Mr. Swanson left. Had I done so I would have asked him what the items are. I am certain that they are all regular expenses, and the numbers on many of the bills are from Montgomery Ward catalog. Is it necessary to ask him to please list items so they may be recognized?

I talked further with Mr. Swanson relative to the rent which he is receiving from rental of part of the house which the Board is renting from him for his use. Mr. Swanson wants to know when this rule is to take effect. He states that he is not the only one to which the rule should apply. Then he told me that Mr. Swogger has been renting a room to a school teacher. He brought up the subject of Mr. Waggoner's rental. He said that he thought he should not be required to turn in rental unless the other missionaries are. Therefore he has not turned in any rental to date.

I did not know that Mr. Swogger was renting any part of his quarters. Since I expect to see him next week, I'll take the subject up with him. As you can see from the enclosed sheet which goes to all members of the Presbytery, the missionaries have all been notified of the rule as to rentals.

My own conviction is that a date should be set. It seems to me that you might say beginning with October 1st 1938.

Mr. Swanson did not indicate to me his reaction to your proposition as to serving the field of Craig.

Mr. Swanson did tell me that Kaiper said something about hoping that he could be put on regular salary the coming year, that he hoped the N.M.Committee would be willing to so recommend, that he wished this because he thought it would be more fair to the other men. Kaiper has not written me anything on the subject.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

Box 275
Wrangell
December 22nd 1938

Mr. George R. Betts
Layworker
Kake, Alaska

Dear Mr. Betts,

.Thank you for the beautiful Christmas Greeting which we received from Mrs. Betts and you. We do very much appreciate you remembrance.

Your reports give good evidence of carefulness in your work and the records. I know that Dr. Somerndike is gratified when he receives complete reports. That is real cooperation.

Am glad that you have the manse so well repaired and in order on the inside. Yes, your idea of putting in some 6 x 6 timbers will meet with approval.

I think that the Board will approve including the payment of the ten dollars for water connection in the repairs for the Kake Manse.

Your note on the local salary support has been carefully read. My understanding was that the Kake congregation has been raising about $70 a year toward the salary of the worker, and that they were willing to try to do that again this year. That would be $10 a month.

George, we all know that you are a true Christian worker, and your heart is with the people all the time. We understand your sympathy with the needs of the members of your congregation.

We know also from experience that the members of our churches find a real blessing and spiritual development in their sacrifice for the work of the church. The fact is that the people who make a sacrifice are the ones who receive the greatest blessing. The progress of Christian people depends on their realization in their part.

Please do not deprive the members of the Kake Church of the blessing which they will enjoy of making their contribution toward your salary. You always make wise use of your salary. The officers of the Kake Church will be helpful in helping.

Our prayer is that God may bless Mrs. Betts and you, and all your people through the New Year of 1939.

Sincerely,

YEAR TEXT: Isaiah 28:16
"CHURCH-GOING FAMILIES ARE HAPPIER FAMILIES"

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BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
Dec 22nd 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed you will find report from Layworker George R. Betts of Kake, bills for repairs to the manse, and his letter to me.

I have written Mr. Betts that he will find that the spiritual development of his people depends on their making a sacrifice, and that he should not deprive them of their privilege of assisting with the salary. Mr. Betts is a big hearted fellow. That was the trouble with Mr. Beck. He felt that the people were too poor to do anything for his salary. I feel that he forgot that people just as poor were sacrificing to make it possible for the Board of National Missions to pay his salary.

Enclosed you will find a copy of our order of service for Christmas. We have found splendid cooperation in all the preparations for the Christmas services. One of our girls who is now the organist prepared the first page.

Best wishes for your New Year.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

Dec.
23rd
1938

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I have received word from Mr. Christiansen, stating that for a number of reasons which he considers quite sufficient, he and Mrs. Christiansen do not see their way clear to accept our offer to appoint him as the general missionary for the two Alaska presbyteries. I have been thinking over the matter a great deal and have given it very earnest consideration and prayer. There is only one man in the Alaska Presbytery aside from Mr. Christiansen who in my judgment possesses the qualifications necessary for this work, and that person is yourself. You have quite frankly stated that for family reasons you would not care to undertake it.

We have decided that it is necessary for us to have someone in this position who will direct the operations of the boat, having entire charge of its itinerations with a competent operator in the person of Mr. Falconer. We have a very fine man in Cordova, Rev. Ralph Peterson, who is an excellent preacher, a vigorous worker, and a man of broad and understanding sympathies. He has done a splendid work in Cordova for the past three or four years. I feel led to approach him with reference to this work. I shall write and ask him whether he would feel favorably inclined toward it. If not, we shall probably bring in a man from the States. Possibly the leading of providence is pointing in that direction anyway. It may be best for our whole Alaska work to have a man come in from the outside who will be able to study the whole situation without embarrassment of previous association or connection with any field in Alaska.

I want to express my deep appreciation of your lovely Christmas letter. It does help a lot to have a word of appreciation occasionally. I think that people in my position are especially sensitive to that sort of thing because so often our motives are misunderstood and so frequently there seems to be very little of understanding sympathy on the part of those who not only create problems but who give us no assistance in solving them. I have always been very thankful for you because instead of adding to my problems you have always been very helpful in giving me counsel which has consistently been wise and well-considered. So this Christmas season I think of you and yours in terms of gratitude and appreciation.

With warm regards, and trusting that the new year may be filled with many blessings for you and yours, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

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BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
Dec. 29, 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed you will find reports of Rev. David Waggoner.

Mr. Waggoner has made a statement to you concerning the Presbyterian mission work at Douglas. I have carefully read that statement. As far as I know,he has made a statement which should be emphasized. Douglas Indian missions have been carried for many years by the Presbyterians. Since it is so convenient to Juneau, that branch mission can be an inspiration to the Juneau Indian work. The Juneau minister working among the Indians can easily continue to serve the Douglas field. For us to turn our work over to the Methodists will not mean progress for the Indians as the Methodists are working at the present time. The Alaska Evangelization Society is on the job and they are going to herald a victory if we step out of Douglas.

I have written Mr. Waggoner on the subject of the rental of part of his manse, and my concluding paragraph to him is: "Mr. Waggoner, would you please send me a statement as to just where the Board stands financially with you as to rentals. I think that Dr. Somerndike would appreciate having an early statement. Have your rental receipts covered the costs of your installations? If not, just how much does the Board owe you?"

Your note regarding Mr. Christiansen's rejection of the appointment as general missionary was received. I wonder whether you have someone else in mind for that position. It seems to me that the consideration of an appointment needs to be kept before us. I am puzzled as to how it is going to be worked out.

Mr. Swanson was here this week, and he told me he had replied to you that he would accept the Craig field, but that he doubted that the Craig people would pay the $15 per month. I believe that if Mr. and Mrs. Swanson will work like Mr. and Mrs. Kaiper are working at Klawock, Craig will pay that amount without any difficulty. The Session promised me that they would increase the local support, if they get a minister who will work at the task. Don't let Swanson persuade you to agree to pay the whole salary with any understanding that he will remit what he receives. Craig should go ahead on a partial self-support basis. They are ready for it. A good minister and wife living on the field can accomplish it. I believe that Christianson should be bringing his people to such a partial self-support in Ketchikan, even a $5 or $10 a month would make him more their own minister.

The Hydaburg field is on my mind a good deal these days. Mr. Davis is serving the field in his way, but in the last mail he wrote that the church had paid him nothing so far as a salary. I wrote the clerk of the session and reminded him that they had agreed to pay $5 a month, and that we understood they had raised a considerable sum so they should be able to pay $10 a month all winter. I expect to hear from the Session soon. My letter was written with the idea that they would "save their faces" with a payment at once so they could write what they had done.

Mr. David wrote that he had not been able to collect any rent from the family which he allowed to move into the manse, and he added that it would be better for Swanson to collect the rent. I included in my letter to the session that Mr. Davis is responsible for the manse and requested them to assist Mr. Davis in collecting the rental which he would send through me to the Board of National Missions. Swanson said the family had no money and would like to pay the rent next summer after fishing season. We'll hear more from the Session or Davis after they receive my letter.

My thought is that the Hydaburg congregation will be asking the Presbytery or Board to place an active missionary on the field. Some Hydaburg young people talked with me about their minister lately, and I think they are not so well satisfied as the old people may be. We should face the likelihood of such a request to placd a missionary at Hydaburg, Oct 1/39.

The Presbyterians are the only ones doing any missionary work in Hydaburg. It is wonderful to have a field with no competition. We have not developed that field for a long while because we have used unprepared layworkers and Mr. Davis who is an ordained minister, but not fully trained. If some of these denominations coming into Alaska knew how little the Presbyterian Church is doing at Hydaburg, they would be opening a work there. The Roman Catholics are quietly touching Hydaburg from time to time. That is a good village which has good possibility of rapid growth in the near future.

We have had a fine Christmas. Our Church was crowded on Christmas Eve for the good program our Sunday School teachers had prepared, and the children made offerings of food for "good cheer boxes for the needy," and the adults made an offering for the Sunday School Foreign Missions benevolences. Christmas morning we had a service of music with a short sermon. In the afternoon we had most of the Institute student body to worship. In the evening the congregation was very small for the cold wave had come, and people were tired from the evening before. We are looking for a well attended Communion service, Jan 1st.

Sincerely, Russell F Eidemon

Excerpts from Reports:

times working as late as ten and eleven in order to get the new house ready to move into. The new furnace is installed sufficiently to be able to use it, and so we are high in hopes for an early moving. After the epidemic life has resumed normality, and the business of the month is progressing. Our Thanksgiving Service ... spirit. The morning service was well attended, about 60 present. at 5:30 the women of the Church served dinner to its members. There were at least 125 present at the dinner. Music was furnished by ... vice amounted to $31.50....."

Rev. Russell P. Pederson, Wrangell: "Thanksgiving was the important day of the past month. Thanksgiving Sunday we had a special National Missions service with offering for the Board of National Missions. The Sunday School had the annual emphasis on gratitude for Christian work in the United States and Alaska. On Thanksgiving Day itself we had a Community Service which was held in the Episcopal Church with the Episcopal Deacon, the Pentacostal District Superintendent, the Mayor of Wrangell, the High School Glee Club, and the Presbyterian minister participating. In this service an offering was made for ... weeks in preparation for their Christmas Gift sale. Each evening as they sewed together, Mrs. Pederson had the pleasure of presenting a lesson on the Life of Christ. She used the large graded lesson pictures, and volunteer interpreters helped the women who do not comprehend English so well. The Missionary Society has paid the balance necessary to complete payments for the Neon-Cross which is to be erected on the church steeple. This first American Church in Alaska will soon have the lighted cross which it is hoped will be a light for the mariners sailing toward Wrangell and to the souls which need inspiration, guidance and renewed strength in Wrangell."

Rev. E. L. Bromley, Hoonah: "We have spent considerable time during the last month circulating a petition proposed to ask Judge G. F. Alexander to refuse to issue liquor licenses in Hoonah for the coming year. We have more signatures to our petition this time than we have in previous attempts to close our liquor stores. .... We have been encouraged by some of the white men asking to sign our request.....Some of our people living in large community houses are beginning to see that for the sake of their children they must have their own home. As a result all of the lots available on our mission ground have been spoken for, and two new homes are going up as soon as possible. The Hoonah A.N.B.. are starting their new hall. They bought the oriental bunk house at the abandoned P.A.F. Cannery in Excursion Inlet. They have part of the lumber here and the rest will be brought over soon."

... aggressiveness on the Grand Jury helped in getting strong recommendations made to the Federal Court in behalf of our Native population ... towards relieving up ... of the land (An ... office) ....The Klukwan people are carrying on faithfully without a layworker ...

Layworker [illegible], Angoon: "As Christmas is nearly here [illegible] getting set progress. The Young people's C. E. Society elected its officers for the year [illegible] are doing fine. The Missionary Society is getting on its feet [illegible] our head church. They are putting on a coffee [illegible] expense of our pastor [illegible]...who is visiting [illegible] help in playing good music for us. Catherine Johnson is very busy directing a play for Christmas and the Sunday School [illegible] The Salvation Army is .....having their Sunday evening services [illegible] us at our church, and tonight have theirs at three o'clock [illegible] Saturday. The [illegible] with be quite busy."

[illegible] Chevak: "Our Christmas play we are giving this year is 'The Christmas Road,' and we are drilling 30 of the older boys and girls of the Sunday School in this production. The population of Hlavock has increased this week by the arrival of one hundred natives from Hidegate and Massett, British Columbia..... Two white men joined the Hlavock native church this past month, Mr. John Swarts, the dairyman here and Mr. Judd Travers, a homesteader who has lived near Chevak for [illegible]. They both give a good witness at the village, and [illegible] work the church is doing here and are willing to cooperate. We held our Thanksgiving Service the Sunday after Thanksgiving on account of the mailboat being delayed for you see we had sent for special printed programs from the Presbyterian office in San Francisco, and we were waiting for them.....Last Sunday evening we had a candle light service...When the last candle was lit the circle of lights was formed and then the girls sang 'Follow the Gleam' which is a [illegible] church work. We spend a good deal of time designing attractive [illegible] to display on our public church bulletin board. We do not think in such a small town as this with only one church and the Salvation Army that it would be necessary, but it makes a great difference in attendance. We have the people [illegible] watching the signs now."

Layworker George R. Betts, Kake: "Inclosed is the report for the month. I tried my best to fill it out as it should be filled. I think we have a good farm for we just have what should be done, but we just got to get down to work. You will notice that we have started a [illegible] program. We plan to hold [illegible] have started an athletic club, the boys under the direction of [illegible] are doing well. They are going to try to keep [illegible] drinking any strong drink, have done well so far, and I think they mean business.....I will sure be glad when we get a basement under our church, for we can do a lot of work with our young people. We see using the manse at this time, but it is rather small. We had a [illegible] last night, about 70 were present. I see we can't get [illegible] get to work on and see more young people interested. I hope you will pray for our young people....."

Rev. and Mrs. Donald C. Christiansen, Ketchikan, are back home after their three months vacation in the East. They reached home just in time to keep them [illegible] before the cold weather [illegible] this district at Christmas [illegible] ature December 26th was 16 degrees above zero, and we think that is cold enough.

[illegible]
Russell, Dec. 26, 192[illegible]

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS
REV. DONALD G. CHRISTIANSEN, CH.
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

PRESBYTERY
OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
MR. W. LESLIE YAW, CH.
SITKA, ALASKA

PENSIONS
REV. DAVID WAGGONER, CH.
JUNEAU, ALASKA

STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER.
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
December 29th 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

The question has been asked by a member of the Presbytery as to what the three months Rev. Donald C. Christiansen was away from the Ketchikan field constituted.

As chairman of the National Missions Committee I have to acknowledge that I know practically nothing about this absence. I heard just before Mr. Christiansen sailed south that he was going out and would be back in December, and that Mr. Beck was to supply. I have received no report from Mr. Christiansen during the past three months nor have I seen his salary vouchers.

Do these three months Mr. Christiansen has been absent constitute a furlough, and when will he be entitled to another furlough which we understand should be four months following a period of five years service?

Was any arrangement made to pay Rev. George J. Beck for his service as a ministerial supply during that three months?

A member of Presbytery has asked whether others can have an accumulated three months vacation, and not have it interfere with a later furlough.

One of the members of the National Missions Committee expressed himself as thinking that the N. M. Committee should know through the Board when such arrangements are being made. Mr. Christiansen did not give me the courtesy of knowing anything about his making arrangements with you until he was about to sail.

I felt that I must write these questions so as to be able to answer the questions of fellow presbyters.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

Dec.
30th
1938

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I am writing to Mr. Swanson today. This is for your files. I am amazed at Mr. Swanson's apparent utter lack of appreciation of the fact that every missionary as well as every other representative of the Board should be actuated by the motive of economy in the expenditure of the Board's funds and should rejoice at every opportunity to conserve the funds of the Board wherever possible. For a missionary to be absolutely insensible of such a requirement is quite beyond my comprehension. Sometimes I fear that some missionaries look upon the Board simply as an inexhaustible supply of cash and fail to share the same sacred sense of responsibility which we at headquarters feel in the expenditure of every dollar which we authorize - realizing the source from which the money comes and the sacrifice which enters into the giving of the money which we are spending. It comes from humble people who have given of themselves in humility, prayer, and sacrifice, and in the spirit of consecration. To spend such money without a sense of its sacredness would be the rankest hypocrisy and certainly we would be unworthy to be entrusted with such responsibilities if we did not feel that sense of sacredness in connection with the authorization of every dollar of expenditure in any of our budgets.

You will note that we have told Mr. Swanson that he can go to Craig for one year but with no absolute promise that the arrangement of having a full time man at Craig and a full time missionary at Klawock will be continued indefinitely. I am convinced that Kaiper will blow up at Klawock sooner or later, and when that happens we will combine Craig and Klawock again. If these two churches want Mr. Swanson, we will agree to permit him to serve both fields, putting the Lindsley at his disposal as his means of transportation between the two fields. I am confident that under the present restricted and curtailed budget under which we are operating, it is quite out of harmony with the Board's desires and purposes to maintain two full time missionaries for the two small groups at Klawock and Craig. Anyway, it doesn't give enough work to either man to keep him out of mischief. I can foresee that Craig and Klawock are going to be our #1 problem next year; and as long as both Kaiper and Swanson are numbered among our Alaska mission-

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS ARE GOING OUT ABOUT THIS TIME. Therefore ours go along with this sheet.

Layworker George R. Betts of Kake reports that "The CCC has started to dig and take away the gravel from under the Church, so you can be sure that we are busy as I am there to see that our Church does not fall over. Monday, Charlie S. Johnson and seven other members of our Church and myself went out for cedar logs to be used for piling. We were out two days and got 40 piles. The boys are digging about eight feet deep, they will take out about 300 cubic yards....We are so happy over the work. I know we could never have done the job for I see now that it is much bigger than we expected." Kake is going to have her church basement as soon as they can raise the money for material. "I have 30 boys and girls in my Week Day Bible Class...I will be glad when the Church gets the money for the basement. We can do a lot more work. John Bean, who is in charge of our young people's work had a young people's meeting after prayermeeting, Wednesday. We had a good turn out, 35 young people that attended. The Women's Missionary Society is meeting every Thursday, and is sure a great help to our Church. One of our big church windows was blown in during a storm, and our sisters bought a new window to put in, in place of the broken one."

Rev. David Waggoner, Juneau, reported December 2nd that progress is being made on the new Memorial Church, and that the final concrete was being poured. A visitor from Juneau told me that Mr. Waggoner has his carpenter apron on and is working every day like the other laborers.

REV. VERNE J. SWANSON, Petersburg, MAKES A REQUEST that each of us aid in locating two missing items: The Kake Presbyterian Church Session Record Book and the M/s Princeton Communion Set. Has anyone seen either since the meeting of Presbytery in Angoon?

Mr. Swanson's schedule may be as follows: Dec 18th Craig, 25th Petersburg, Jan 1st Angoon, 8th Chichagoff, 15th Kake, 22nd Petersburg, 29th Petersburg, Feb 5th Kasaan, 12th Craig, 19th Petersburg, 26th Angoon, Mar 5th Kake, 12th Petersburg, 19th Craig; and then all aboard for Presbytery at Hoonah.

Dr Somerndike attention

*BOARD PROPERTIES. Dr. Somerndike has given this notification:
* "No missionary has any right to rent even one room in a property
* owned by the Board of National Missions except upon authority
* from the Board; and in that case he is expected to remit the
* amount of the rental to the Board." "There must be no changes
* whatever in property owned by the Board without first consulting
* and receiving the consent of the Board."

MOTION PICTURES. Dr. Somerndike has made available the following 16 mm pictures for not more than four months, or to Apr 1, 1939: 2 reels each---"Hearthstones and Altars"
"The Road to Oregon"
"Where East and West Meet"
"Beneath the Artic Circle"
Dr. Limouze sent us two reels: "Our Church in Our Day"

MOTION PICTURES, con'd

Dr. Somerndike secured a projector to be used until time of Presbytery. In case anything goes wrong with the projector, the Board requests that none of us have a local mechanic make any repairs or adjustments. The machine should be returned to the New York office, and they'll have it put in first class condition.

Mr. Swanson will have the projector on Board the Princeton until he touches Hoonah, about Jan 2nd, when he will leave it with Mr. Bromley to use. Mr. Bromley can forward it on your request.

When you have used the projector or any of the film, please let me know. In that way we may keep track of the location of the film and help expedite its use. Also let me know to whom you send the film. These should be sent by parcel post or express as each roll of film is worth more than $25, and the projector costs about $200.

Mr. Swogger has "Hearthstones and Altars" and "Where East and West Meet" and he will mail them to Mr. Wheeler who [illegible] requested them to Mr. Waggoner and Mr. Glasse who will please forward them to Mr. Bromley. Others who wish to use these films please let me know.

Mr. Swanson will have "The Road to Oregon" and "Beneath the Artic Circle". He will use them till he gets to Hoonah and will leave them with Mr. Bromley. Mr. Bromley will please forward these two sets of film to Mr. Glasse and Mr. Waggoner who will send them to Wheeler and Knudsen. Others who wish to use these films please let me know.

Mr. Webster will have "Our Church in Our Day" and he is requested to mail them to Knudsen and Wheeler who will mail them to Mr. Christiansen for his and Swogger's use. When do you wish to use these two reels?

TODAY

The Devotional Aid, "Today," is getting better and better. We are using it and are thankful for it as a Presbyterian production. If you are not using "Today" and promoting its use, won't you please give it a trial? Your 60¢ for that subscription will be a good investment.

BENEVOLENCES:

Should you not know your benevolent quota for 1938-39, please ask the Stated Clerk or me for the information. The Dec 5th number of Monday Morning indicates very definitely that the Boards need our benevolence remittances at once. As Promotional Committee Chairman, I urge each one to do just a little more to help our Presbytery go above our benevolent quota for the year. THE BOARDS ARE LOOKING FOR EARLY REMITTANCES TO SAVE BORROWING MONEY ON WHICH THEY WILL HAVE TO PAY INTEREST.

As Christmas Greetings are sent along with this sheet, let me give you our Year Text, Isaiah 28:16, and our Theme for Emphasis is "Church-going Families are happier Families--Dr. Link"

Oh, may God give us all the spiritual vision, love and power, that we may serve more successfully in 1939, and for the glory of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,

December 15th 1938

Russell F. Pederson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
UNITED PROMOTIONS
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REV DAVID WAGGONER,
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
December 31, 1938

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Thank you for your very nice letter of the 23rd.

In that letter you wrote that Mr. Christiansen had declined the appointment as general missionary for the two Alaska presbyteries.

Now, I have no objection to a general missionary for the two presbyteries, but I do not understand how you are planning his activities.

Your letter has me studying. I cannot conceive of the missionary in charge of the Princeton having time to leave the boat and do any work in Yukon Presbytery. The Princeton can well be in service full time in Alaska Presbytery, and she should not be taken across the Gulf of Alaska. There is some weather which would be perfectly safe, but that small boat is not a ship for use of a general missionary in going across the Gulf.

If you are appointing a general missionary with definite responsibilities in both Yukon Presbytery and Alaska Presbytery, he should not be charged with the missionary work of the Princeton.

I believe that you had best try to find a man who will be appointed to serve on the Princeton in the Presbytery of Alaska only. He will have more to do than he will have time.

I wish that I knew in detail just what you expect the general missionary to accomplish, and the program he will be expected to inaugurate. In your letters of earlier dates, I thought I could see how you were working out the requests of Presbytery for a man and wife to work with the Princeton toward development of fields and churches in Alaska Presbytery.

We are with you whole-heartedly in working out this matter.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson